

# THE LION AND THE MOUSE.

By CHARLES KLEIN.

A Story of American Life Novelized From the Play by ARTHUR HORNBLow.

COPYRIGHT, 1906, BY G. W. DILLINGHAM COMPANY.

"The Lion and the Mouse," novelized from Charles Klein's great play, is an American story of the hour dealing with the billionaire. Its leading character is the richest man in the world. In the thinly veiled John Ryder the reader will immediately recognize another John of worldwide fame. John Ryder's unscrupulous methods are revealed in the conspiracy to ruin an incorruptible judge who rules adversely to the interests of organized capital. The judge's daughter determines to save him. Her heroic struggles in conflict with the money octopus make a story of absorbing interest and great dramatic power. In his willingness to renounce his father's fortune for the girl of his choice, Ryder's son displays a nobility which wins the reader's warmest admiration.

## CHAPTER I.

THERE was unvoiced bustle in the usually sleepy and dignified New York offices of the Southern and Transcontinental Railroad company in lower Broadway.

It was the regular quarterly meeting of the directors of the Southern and Transcontinental Railroad company, but it was something more than mere routine that had called out a quorum of such strength and which made today's gathering one of extraordinary importance in the history of the road. That the business on hand was of the greatest significance was easily to be inferred from the concerned and anxious expression on the directors' faces and the eagerness of the employees as they piled each other with questions.

"Suppose the injunction is sustained?" asked a clerk in a whisper. "Is not the road rich enough to bear the loss?"

The man he addressed turned impatiently to the questioner.

"That's all you know about railroad-ing. Don't you understand that this suit we have lost will be the entering wedge for hundreds of others? The very existence of the road may be at stake. And between you and me," he added in a lower key, "with Judge Rossmore on the bench we never stood much show. It's Judge Rossmore that scores 'em, not the injunction. They've found it easy to corrupt most of the supreme court judges, but Judge Rossmore is one too many for them. You could no more bribe him than you could have bribed Abraham Lincoln."

"But the newspapers say that he, too, has been caught accepting \$50,000 worth of stock for that decision he rendered in the Great Northwestern case."

"Lies! All those stories are lies," replied the other emphatically. Then, looking cautiously around to make sure no one overheard, he added contemptuously: "The big interests fear him, and they're inventing those lies to try and injure him. They might as well try to blow up Gibraltar. The fact is the public is seriously aroused this time, and the railroads are in a panic."

It was true. The railroad, which heretofore had considered itself superior to law, had found itself checked in its career of outlandry and oppression. The railroad, this modern octopus of steam and steel which stretches its greedy tentacles out over the land, had at last been brought to book.

John Burkett Ryder, the richest man in the world—the man whose name had spread to the farthest corners of the earth because of his wealth, and whose money, instead of being a blessing, promised to become not only a curse to himself, but a source of dire peril to all mankind—was a genius born of the railroad age. No other age could have brought him forth. His peculiar talents fitted exactly the conditions of his time. Attracted early in life to the newly discovered oil fields of Pennsylvania, he became a dealer in the raw product and later a refiner, acquiring with capital, laboriously saved, first one refinery, then another. The railroads were cutting each other's throats to secure the freight business of the oil men, and John Burkett Ryder saw his opportunity. He made secret overtures to the road, guaranteeing a vast amount of business if he could get exceptionally low rates, and the illegal compact was made. His competitors, undersold in the market, stood no chance, and one by one they were crushed out of existence. Ryder called those maneuvers "business." The world called them brigandage. But the Colossus prospered and slowly built up the foundations of the extraordinary fortune which is the talk and the wonder of the world today. Master now of the oil situation, Ryder succeeded in his ambition of organizing the Empire Trading company, the most powerful, the most secretive and the most wealthy business institution the commercial world has yet known.

Yet with all this success John Burkett Ryder was still not content. He was now a rich man, richer by many millions than he had dreamed he could ever be, but still he was unsatisfied. He became money mad. He wanted to be richer still, to be the richest man in the world, the richest man the world had ever known. And the richer he got the stronger the idea grew upon him with all the force of a morbid obsession.

Yet this commercial pirate, this Napoleon of finance, was not a wholly bad man. He had his redeeming qualities, like most bad men. His most pronounced weakness, and the one that had made him the most conspicuous man of his time, was an entire lack of moral principle. No honest or honorable man could have amassed such stupendous wealth. In other words, John Ryder had not been equipped by nature with a conscience. He had no sense of right or wrong or justice where his own interests were concerned. He was the prince of egotists. On the other hand, he possessed qualities which, with some people, count as virtues. He was pious and regular in his attendance at church, and, while he had done but little for charity, he was known to have encouraged the giving of alms by members of his family, which consisted of a wife, whose mild voice was rarely heard, and a son Jefferson, who was the destined successor of his gigantic estate.

Such was the man who was the real power behind the Southern and Transcontinental railroad. More than any one else Ryder had been aroused by the present legal action, not so much for the money interest at stake as that any one should dare to thwart his will. It had been a pet scheme of his, this purchase for a song when the land was cheap of some thousand acres along the line, and it is true that at the time of the purchase there had been some idea of laying the land out as a park, but real estate values had increased in astonishing fashion, the road could no longer afford to carry out the original scheme and had attempted to dispose of the property for building purposes, including a right of way for a branch road. The news, made public in the newspapers, had raised a storm of protest. The people in the vicinity claimed that the railroad secured the land on the express condition of a park being laid out, and in order to make a legal test they had secured an injunction, which had been sustained by Judge Rossmore of the United States circuit court.

These details were hastily told and retold by one clerk to another as the babel of voices in the inner room grew louder and more directors kept arriving from the ever busy elevators. The meeting was called for 3 o'clock. Another five minutes and the chairman would rap for order. A tall, strongly built man with white mustache and kindly smile emerged from the directors' room and, addressing one of the clerks, asked:

"Has Mr. Ryder arrived yet?" The alacrity with which the employee hastened forward to reply would indicate that his interlocutor was a person of more than ordinary importance.

"No, senator, not yet. We expect him any minute." Then with a deferential smile he added, "Mr. Ryder usually arrives on the stroke, sir."

The senator gave a nod of acquiescence and, turning on his heel, greeted with a grasp of the hand and affable smile his fellow directors as they passed in by twos and threes.

Senator Roberts was in the world of politics what his friend John Burkett Ryder was in the world of finance—a leader of men. He started life in Wisconsin as an errand boy, was educated in the public schools and later became clerk in a dry goods store, finally going into business for his own account on a large scale. He was elected to the legislature, where his ability as an organizer soon gained the friendship of the men in power, and later was sent to congress, where he was quickly initiated in the game of corrupt politics. In 1885 he entered the United States senate. He soon became the acknowledged leader of a considerable majority of the Republican senators, and from then on he was a figure to be reckoned with. A very ambitious man, with a great love of power and few scruples, it is little wonder that only the practical or dishonest side of politics appealed to him. He was in politics for all there was in it, and he saw in his lofty position only a splendid opportunity for easy graft.

He did not hesitate to make such alliances with corporate interests seeking influence at Washington as would enable him to accomplish his purpose, and in this way he had met and formed a strong friendship with John Burkett Ryder. Each, being a master in his own field, was useful to the other. Neither was troubled with qualms of conscience, so they never quarreled. If Ryder interests needed anything in the senate, Roberts and his followers were there to attend to it. Just now the cohort was marshaled in defense of the new rebate bill. In fact, Ryder managed to keep the senate busy all

the time. When, on the other hand, the senators wanted anything—and they often did—Ryder saw that they got it, lower rates for this one, a fat job for that one, not forgetting themselves. Senator Roberts was already a very rich man, and, although the world often wondered where he got it, no one had the courage to ask him.

But the Republican leader was stirred with an ambition greater than that of controlling a majority in the senate. He had a daughter, a marriageable young woman who, at least in her father's opinion, would make a desirable wife for any man. His friend Ryder had a son, and this son was the only heir to the greatest fortune ever amassed by one man, a fortune which at its present rate of increase by the time the father died and the young couple were ready to inherit would probably amount to over \$6,000,000,000. Could the human mind grasp the possibilities of such a colossal fortune? It staggered the imagination. Its owner or the man who controlled it would be master of the world! Was not this a prize any man might well set himself out to win? The senator was thinking of it now as he stood exchanging banal remarks with the men who accosted him. If he could only bring off that marriage, he would be content. The ambition of his life would be attained. There was no difficulty as far as John Ryder was concerned. He favored the match and had often spoken of it. Indeed, Ryder desired it, for such an alliance would naturally further his business interests in every way. Roberts knew that his daughter Kate had more than a liking for Ryder's handsome young son. Moreover, Kate was practical, like her father, and had sense enough to realize what it would mean to be the mistress of the Ryder fortune. No, Kate was all right, but there was young Ryder to reckon with. It would take two in this case to make a bargain.

Jefferson Ryder was, in truth, an entirely different man from his father. It was difficult to realize that both had sprung from the same stock. A college bred boy, with all the advantages his father's wealth could give him, he had inherited from the parent only those characteristics which would have made him successful even if born poor—activity, pluck, application, dogged obstinacy, alert mentality. To these qualities he added what his father sorely lacked—a high notion of honor, a keen sense of right and wrong. He had the honest man's contempt for meanness of any description, and he had little patience with the lax, so-called business morals of the day. For him a dishonorable or dishonest



It was John Burkett Ryder, the Colossus. action could have no apology, and he could see no difference between the crime of the hungry wretch who stole a loaf of bread and the coal baron who systematically robbed both his employees and the public. In fact, had he been on the bench he would probably have acquitted the human derelict who in despair had appropriated the prime necessary of life and sent the overfed, conscienceless coal baron to jail.

The hands of the large clock in the outer room pointed to 3. An active, dapper little man with glasses and with books under his arm passed hurriedly from another office into the directors' room.

"There goes Mr. Lane with the minutes. The meeting is called. Where's Mr. Ryder?" asked one of the directors. There was a general move of the scattered groups of directors toward the committee room. The clock overhead began to strike. The last stroke had not quite died away when the big swinging doors from the street were thrown open and there entered a tall, thin man, gray headed and with a slight stoop, but keen eyed and alert. He was carefully dressed in a well fitting frock coat, white waistcoat, black tie and silk hat.

It was John Burkett Ryder, the Colossus.

## CHAPTER II.

A T fifty-six John Burkett Ryder was surprisingly well preserved. With the exception of the slight stoop already noted and the rapidly thinning snow white hair, his step was as light and elastic and his brain as vigorous and alert as in a man of forty. Of old English stock, his physical makeup presented all those strongly marked characteristics of our race which sprung from Anglo-Saxon ancestry, but modified by nearly 200 years of different climate and customs has gradually produced the distinct and true American type, as easily recognizable among the family of nations as any other of the earth's children.

Tall and distinguished looking, Ryder would have attracted attention anywhere. Men who have accomplished much in life usually bear plainly upon their persons the indefinable stamp of

achievement, whether of good or evil, which renders them conspicuous among their fellows. We turn after a man in the street and ask, Who is he? And nine times out of ten the object of our curiosity is a man who has made his mark—a successful soldier, a famous sailor, a celebrated author, a distinguished lawyer, or even a notorious crook.

There was certainly nothing in John Ryder's outward appearance to justify Lombroso's sensational description of him: "A social and physiological freak, a degenerate and a prodigy of turpitude who, in the pursuit of money, crushes with the insensibility of a steel machine every one who stands in his way." On the contrary, Ryder, outwardly at least, was a prepossessing looking man. His head was well shaped, and he had an intellectual brow, while power was expressed in every gesture of his hands and body. Every inch of him suggested strength and resourcefulness. His face, when in good humor, frequently expanded in a pleasant smile, and he had even been known to laugh boisterously, usually at his own stories, which he rightly considered very droll, and of which he possessed a goodly stock. But in repose his face grew stern and forbidding, and when his prognathous jaw, indicative of will power and bulldog tenacity, snapped to with a click-like sound, those who heard it knew that signals were coming.

But it was John Ryder's eyes that were regarded as the most reliable barometer of his mental condition. Wonderful eyes they were, strangely eloquent and expressive, and their most singular feature was that they possessed the uncanny power of changing color like a cat's. When their owner was at peace with the world, and had temporarily shaken off the cares of business, his eyes were of the most restful, beautiful blue, like the sky after sunrise on a spring morning, and looking into their serene depths it seemed absurd to think that this man could ever harm a fly. His face, while under the spell of this kindly mood, was so benevolent and gentle, so frank and honest that you felt there was nothing in the world—purse, honor, wife, child—that, if needs be, you would not trust to his keeping.

When the period of truce was ended, when the plutocrat was once more absorbed in controlling the political as well as the commercial machinery of the nation, then his eyes took on a squalid, greenish hue, and one could plainly read in them the cunning, the avariciousness, the meanness, the insatiable thirst for gain that had made this man the most unscrupulous money getter of his time, but his eyes had still another color, and when this last transformation took place those dependent upon him and even his friends quaked with fear, for they were his eyes of anger. On these dreaded occasions his eyes grew black as darkest night and flashed fire as lightning rends the thundercloud. Almost un-governable fury was indeed the weakest spot in John Ryder's armor, for in these moments of appalling wrath he was reckless of what he said or did, friendship, self interest, prudence, all were sacrificed.

Such was the Colossus on whom all eyes were turned as he entered. Instantly the conversation stopped as by magic. The directors nudged each other and whispered. Instinctively Ryder singled out his enemy, Senator Roberts, who advanced with offensive gesture.

[Continued next week.]

## CONTEST NOTICE.

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Roseburg, Or., June 12, 1907.

A sufficient contest affidavit having been filed in this office by Edwin E. Stillwell, contestant, against homestead entry No. 13135, made October 6, 1905, for the NW 1/4 of Section 25, Township 29, N. Range 15 W., by Robert A. Donk, contestee, in which it is alleged that said Robert A. Donk has wholly abandoned said tract and changed his residence therefrom for more than two years since making said entry and next prior to the date herein; that said tract is not settled upon and cultivated by said party as required by law; that said entry was not due to employment in the military or naval service of the United States in time of war, said parties are hereby notified to appear, respond and offer evidence touching said allegation at 10 o'clock a. m. on July 29, 1907 before C. T. Blumeroth, Notary Public, at his office at Bandon, Oregon, and that final hearing will be held at 10 o'clock a. m. on August 13, 1907, before the Register and Receiver at the United States Land Office in Roseburg, Oregon.

The said contestant having, in a proper affidavit, filed June 10, 1907, set forth facts which show that after due diligence personal service of this notice cannot be made, it is hereby ordered and directed that such notice be given by due and proper publication.

BENJAMIN L. EDY, Register.

## Notice of Street Improvement

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Trustees of the Town of Bandon, Coos Co., Oregon, by order duly passed on the 24th day of June, 1907, and entered in the Journal of its record for that day, proposes and hereby gives notice of such proposal, to improve, grade, repair, replank, and cause sidewalks to be built upon the following named streets, within the limits of the Town of Bandon, to-wit: Fourth, Bluff, Coquille, Pine, Spruce, Pioneer, The Extension of Pioneer, The County Road, known as the Plank Road, and in the Woodland Addition known as Abernathy Avenue, Columbus Avenue, Little Street, known as Pacific Avenue and First Street, said improvements being more specifically described as follows:

1. To build a sidewalk on the North side of the North line of intersection with Spruce Street, westward to the termination thereof, being the west line of intersection with the County road running North East and South West, and continuing on the West side of said County road to the South line of the Chris Rasmussen property.

2. Also to build a sidewalk on the East and the West side of Bluff Street, beginning at its South line of intersection with Fourth Street continuing Southward to the point where Bluff Street diverges East, and from said point of diversion, said sidewalk to continue upon the West side of said Street, to the South line of intersection with Coquille Street.

3. Also to build a sidewalk on the South side of Coquille Street, in South Bandon Addition to said Town, beginning at the West line of intersection with Bluff Street (sprung), continuing thence Eastward to Spruce Street.

4. To build a sidewalk upon the East and the West side of Pine Street, beginning at the South line of intersection with Fourth Street, continuing Southward to and over the City of Bandon property, also on the East side of said street, beginning at the south end of the present sidewalk, continuing southward to the Horstall property, thence continuing on the South side of said Street, to its intersection and merger with Pine, and diversion Southward, and from such point, to build a sidewalk upon the East and the West side of said Street, to and even with the South line of said Horstall property.

5. To build sidewalks upon Spruce Street as follows: On the East side thereof, beginning at the North line of intersection with Pine Street, continuing Northward to the North line of the Upper property, also on the West side of said Street, beginning at the South line of intersection with Fourth Street, continuing Southward to and over the City of Bandon property, also on the East side of said street, beginning at the south end of the present sidewalk, continuing southward to the Horstall property, thence continuing on the South side of said Street, to its intersection and merger with Pine, and diversion Southward, and from such point, to build a sidewalk upon the East and the West side of said Street, to and even with the South line of said Horstall property.

6. To build a sidewalk upon the East side of Pioneer Street and upon the East side of the Extension of Pioneer Street, beginning at the South line of intersection with Fourth Street, continuing Southward to the terminal thereof.

7. To build a sidewalk on Wharf Street upon the East and the West side thereof, beginning at the South line of intersection with Third Street, in the original Townsite, continuing Southward to the terminal thereof.

8. To build a sidewalk on the West side of the Street commonly known as the County plank road, known in Woodland Addition also as Abernathy Avenue, beginning at the South line of intersection with Third Street in the original Townsite, continuing Southward and on the side of said street or road to the North line of intersection with Sixth Street, in said Woodland Addition.

9. The said Board proposes to survey and establish a regular and uniform grade for that portion of Columbus Avenue, between the North line of its intersection with Spruce Street and the South line of intersection with Sixth Street, and to grade the same in accordance with the grade so established.

10. To survey and establish a regular and uniform grade for that portion of Little Street, otherwise known as Pacific Avenue, between the South line of intersection with Atwater Street, continuing Southward to the South line of intersection with Sixth Street, and to grade the said portion of said street or avenue for the whole width thereof in accordance with the grade so established.

11. Also to establish a regular and official grade upon First Street for that portion between the East line of intersection with Columbus Avenue, continuing Eastward to the East line of intersection with Homer Street, and upon such portion to reconstruct the sidewalk, and to replank the same, for the whole width thereof, where the same is not in accordance with regulation, with a 4 inch plank.

12. Also upon First Street between the West line of intersection of said First Street, and Pacific Street, continuing Westward to the East line of intersection with Spruce Street, to survey and establish a sidewalk grade.

It is furthermore proposed that all sidewalks so built, shall conform to the following specifications: Three stringers, 2x4 or 6 inches, that all planking shall be 1 1/2 inch in thickness, and that all walks shall be at least 6 feet wide.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That unless two-thirds of the property owners on the respective street or streets and avenue or avenues, shall file a written remonstrance with the Recorder of the said Town of Bandon within 10 days from the final publication hereof, which said publication will be the 11th day of July, 1907, remonstrating against the proposed improvements, then an ordinance will be passed by the said Board, appropriating funds for the construction of such sidewalks on the respective streets and for grading and planking the respective streets and avenues so designated above, and said ORDINANCE WILL FURTHER MAKE IT COMPULSORY on the respective property owners of the respective streets or avenues for all such work or construction on the respective streets or avenues for all such work of construction in the respective streets or avenues, and for carrying out said work in accordance with law.

Dated this 24th day of June, 1907.

C. R. WADE, Recorder of the Town of Bandon.

## BANK OF BANDON,

BANDON, OREGON

Capital \$25,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: J. L. KROENBERG, President, J. DENHOLM, Vice Pres. F. J. FAHY, Cashier, FRANK FLAM, T. P. HANLY.

A general banking business transacted, and customers given every accommodation consistent with safe and conservative banking.

Correspondents: The American National Bank of San Francisco, California. Merchants' National Bank, Portland, Oregon. The Chase National Bank of New York.

Bank is Open from 9 a. m. to 12 m., and 1 p. m. to 3 p. m.

## R. H. Rosa Co. Inc.

In the Rosa Building

A Complete Line of GENERAL MARCHANDISE

Farm Produce Taken in Exchange Free Delivery all parts of the City.

## LEWIN'S Meat - Market

All Kinds of

## MEATS and PROVISIONS

Furnished at Living Prices. A share of the Public Patronage Solicited.

E. LEVIN Prop.

## The Opera

has a select stock of WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

Steam Beer on Draught.

COURTEOUS TREATMENT.

GROSS BROS.

Bandon, Oregon.

## Furnished Rooms

—AT—

## The Pacific

BANDON

Nice clean rooms, 25 and 50c a Light; \$1.25 a week; \$5.00 a month.

MRS SARAH COSTELLO.

## BOOTS SHOES

You Can't Expect to Get \$2 Worth for \$1, But You Can Get Your MONEY'S WORTH at

## M. BREUER'S

Dealer in Boots and Shoes

Repairing neatly and promptly done at lowest living prices.