THE IRON PIRATE

A Plain Tale of Strange Happenings on the Sea

By MAX PEMBERTON

CHAPTER XV.

During some days I saw no more of the doctor, or of anyone about the ship save an old negro, who became my servant. He was not an unkindly looking man, being of great age, and somewhat feeble in his actions; but he never opened his lips when I questioned him, and gave a plain "Yes" or "No" to any demand.

It must have been on the fourth day after my capture that the nameless ship, which hitherto had not been speeding at an abnormal pace, began to go very fast. Finally, by the consciousness that the ship had stopped, and that there was much agitation on deck, I looked from my window and observed the cause of the confusion, for there, ahead of us a mile or more, was one of the largest icebergs I have ever seen. I watched intently, hoping to see other bergs that should tell me how far we had gone towards the North, but the night fell suddenly. I had a notion that Captain Black was running to hiding; and his hiding place lay to the north, far above the course even of Canadian-bound vessels.

The time passed, the weather growing colder day by day, the bergs more frequent about my windows; until on the evening of the seventh day the ship stopped suddenly. The work of mooring was not a long one. On the next morning I got up at daybreak, and looked eagerly from my spying place; but I could discern only a blank cliff of rock, the ship being now moored against the very side of it. The negro brought a note with my breakfast; and I read an invitation to dine with Captain Black that evening. I welcomed the prospect of change, when the old man threw open the door and said, "The Master waits!"

He led the way up the companion ladder, which was, in fact, a broad staircase, elaborately lit with the electric light; and so brought me to the deck, where there was darkness save in one spot above the fore-turret. There a lantern threw a great volume of white light which spread out upon the sea, and showed me at once that we were in a cove of some breadth, surrounded by prodigiously high cliffs; and the light being focussed straight across the bay, disclosed a cleft in these rocks leading apparently to a further cove beyond. I had scarce time to get other than a rough idea of the whole situation, for a boat was waiting at the gangway. The men gave way at once, keeping in the course of the searchlight, and rowing straight to the cleft in the cliffs, through which they passed; and so left the light and entered a narrower fjord. This second cove opened after a while into a lake, above whose shores I observed many twinkling lights, which seemed to come from windows far up the face of the cliff. There was a rough landing stage, cut in the rock, and an iron stairway led thence to the chambers which evidently existed above.

When we had come to shore, and had been received there by several men who held lanterns, the negro pointed to the iron stairway and told me to mount; he following me to the summit, where there was a platform and an iron door. The door opened as we arrived before it, and there standing by it I found the young doctor.

"Come in," he said, "they're waiting for you."

We were in a broad passage lit by the electric light—a passage cut in a crystal like rock, whose surface had almost the lustre of a mirror. The passage led up to a second door—this one built of fine American walnut; and we passed through it at once into a room where I was astounded to see indisputable evidence of civilization and of refinement. The whole chamber was hung round with superb skins, the white fur of the polar bear predominating; but there were couches cushioned with deep brown seal; and the same glossy skin was laid upon the floor in so many layers that the footfall was noiseless and pleasantly luxuriant. The furniture otherwise was both modern and artistic.

The room had a solitary occupant. One glance assured me that I was face to face with Captain Black—the Captain Black I had seen in Paris; but yet not the same, for all the bravado and rough speech which which then fell from his lips was wanting. When he stepped forward and held out his hand to me, I had the mind almost to draw back from him, for I knew that the man had crime heavy upon him; but a second thought convinced me of the folly of making a scene at such a moment; so I took the great hard hand and looked him full in the face.

"I am glad to see you," said he; "dinner waits us;" and with that we passed into another chamber containing a dining table laid for four persons in a very elegant manner. The only servant was a giant black, and the guests of the Captain were the young doctor, the Scotsman known as Dick the Ranter, and myself.

The captain made no attempt to conceal information from me. The first occasion of his speaking during dinner was in answer to a remark of mine that I found the room very pleasantly warm.

"Yes," he said, "you must feel the change. You know where you are, of course. This is the west coast of Greenland, and there is a Danish settlement not fifty miles from you—although we don't leave cards on our neighbors Well, I won't have you hurried, and you're my guest until I put a certain straight question to you. When that happens you won't think twice about the answer."

"This pleasant party must disperse," he said to me later; "you can go to the quarters we have provided for you, unless you would like to see more of us."

"I should like to see everything you can show me," I replied, being aflame with curiosity to know all that the strange situation could teach me; and then he made a motion for the others to follow, and we passed from the room.

The way from the dining room was through a long passage lighted with arc lamps at intervals, and having the doors of many rooms on the right-hand side of it. Several of these doors were open; and I saw the interiors of well-furnished bedrooms, of smaller sitting rooms, and of a beautifully furnished billiard room. At the end of the passage we descended a flight of stairs to another landing. This proved the way to a small stretch of beach, and here I found several substantial buildings of stone, evidently for the use of Black's company. The largest of the houses seemed to be a kind of hall, well lighted by arc lamps. Into this we passed, lifting a heavy curtain of skins; and seated there, on all sorts of rough lounges and benches were the men I had seen in Paris, with fifty or sixty others, no less ferocious looking.

"Men," said Black, "I want to tell you that we've got a stranger with us; but he's here to stay, and he's my charge."

"Has he jined?" asked a blear-eyed man, who had eyed me with much curiosity; but the captain answered:

"That's my affar, and you keep your tongue still if you don't want me to cut it out; he'll join us by-and-by."

"That's agen rules," said Roaring John.

"Agen what?" asked Black in a tone of thunder.

"Agen rules," replied Roaring John; "his man broke my jaw, and I'll pay him, or, you guess."

"Maybe you're right. No stranger stays here unless he joins, except them from the mines—but I've my own ideas on that, and when the time comes I'll abide by what's done. If any man would like to dictate to me, let him step out."

The fellow slunk away under the threat. Black was master beyond all question, and he protected me.

We went back with him to the long passage where I had seen the doors of bed chambers, and there he bade me good-night. The doctor showed me into a room cut in the solid rock, but with windows towards the sea. But first he said:

"You must have been born under a lucky star; you're the first man to whom Black ever gave an hour's grace."

CHAPTER XVI.

The bed in which I lay was wondrous soft and downy; and the cold gave me deep sleep, so that I awoke at a late hour to find the sun streaming through my rock window, and the negro telling me that my bath was ready. When we returned to my sleeping place, I found the bed curtained off, leaving a commodious apartment, with books, armchairs, a writing table and a fireplace, in which a coal fire burned brightly. But the greater surprise was the view from my window over a sunlit fjord, away to mountain peaks, snow-capped and shining; and between them to a vista of an endless snow plain, white and dazzling.

The doctor came to me while I was at breakfast. "The captain sends you his compliments," he said. "The men are inclined to resent the exception that has been made in your case. I am afraid it will lead to trouble unless you choose to close with the offer that Black makes to you."

"How has an exception been made in my case, and what is the offer?"

"Captain Black has brought thirty or forty Englishmen of your position to this place within the last three years; not one of them has lived twenty hours from the time he set foot in the rock house. The time will come when you must sign an agreement such as I have signed, and these men have signed—and I don't believe that you will refuse."

"You lay it all down very clearly," I replied, "but you can have my answer now if you like."

"Black won't hurry you. You can't do better than take things easy, and see the place."

The idea of inspecting the place pleased me. I followed Doctor Osbart to the beach. The coast-line was lofty and awe-inspiring. I stood entranced with the vigor born of the life-giving breeze. At last he touched me upon the shoulder, and pointed to where the nameless ship lay snugly moored.

"Look," he said, "at the instrument of our power. Is not she magnificent? With her we defy the world. Aboard her, we are superior to fleets and nations; we laugh at the fastest cruisers and the biggest warships."

He spoke with extraordinary enthusiasm. The great ship was indeed a beauteous object, lying there golden, yet swan-like, the guns uncovered as the men worked at them.

"She is a wonderful ship," said I, "and built of metal I never met with."

"Her hull is constructed of phosphor-bronze," he answered, "and she is driven by gas. It was one of Black's inspirations to choose Greenland for his hole; it is one of the few comparatively uninhabited countries in the world where coal is to be had."

"Who are your miners?" I asked.

"Honest British seamen whose voyages have been interrupted. We give them the alternative of work in the mine, or their liberty on the snow yonder."

"But how can they live in such a place?"

"They don't live," said he. "They die like vermin."

CHAPTER XVII.

For some days I saw no more of Doctor Osbart or of Captain Black. Once or twice I saw the man "Four-Eyes," and from him gained a few answers to my questions. He told me that Captain Black kept up communication with Europe by two small screw steamers disguised as whalers.

There were fifty prisoners in the mines. If fifty men were to be turned free, then surely I could count on fifty allies; and fifty-one strong hands could at least make some show even against the ruffians of the rock house. Give them arms, and a chance of surprise, and who knows? I said.

It might have been a mad hope, but yet it was a hope. Unless the man "Four-Eyes" deliberately deceived me, Black would connive at the murder of fifty British seamen before another twenty-four hours had sped. These men would have all the anger of desperation to drive them to the attack; and I felt sure that if I could get some arms into their hands, the attempt would at least be justifiable.

During the remaining hours of the day I engaged myself in searching the houses on the beach; but, although I looked into many of them, I found no sign of armory. Then I remembered that Black had a stand of Winchester rifles in his study. I had hopes that they would suffice, with knives and any revolvers I might lay hands upon, to hold a ring of men against the company. This thought I hugged to me all day, going often to the iron platform above the creek to know if there were any sign of the release of the miners, or of preparation for getting rid of them.

Towards evening, when I was weary with the watching, there was the sound of a gunshot below in the creek; and I went to my window, and saw the whole of a cruel scene. Some twenty of these seamen, black as they had come from the coal shaft, were going ashore from a long-boat, while an electric launch was bringing twenty more from the outer creek where the nameless ship lay. But the men who had first landed were surrounded by the others of Black's company; and were being driven towards the hills, and so to the great desolate plain of snow where no human thing could long retain life. The pirates hit lustily with the butt ends of their pistols; the honest fellows used their fists, and many a man they laid his length upon the rock. Inch by inch they gave way, were driven towards the ravines and the countless miles of snow plain; and as the battle raged, the armed began to shoot with murderous purpose. Death at last was added to the horrors, and, as body after body rolled down the rocky slope and fell splashing into the water, those unwounded took panic at the sight and fled with all possible speed away up the side of the glacier mount, and so to their death in that frozen refuge beyond.

At 7 o'clock I dined as usual I closed my own door, and for three hours or more I paced my chamber, the fever of anticipation and of design burning me as with fire.

Of the doors about, the majority were closed; but the Doctor's was open. I began to feel my way in the blinding dark. My first proceeding was to run upon some slight article of furniture and to overturn it. Twice I went round the room, and could not put my hand upon the rifles; but at the third attempt I found them, and gave a sigh of relief. Then an overwhelming terror struck me chill and powerless. My sigh was echoed from the corner by the window; and a low chuckle of laughter followed it. I stood as a man petrified, my hand upon a gun, but my nerves strained to a tension that was horrible to bear.

In another moment the electric light flooded the chamber, and I saw Black sitting at his writing table, observing me, a jeer upon his lips, and all the terrible malice of his nature written in his keen and mocking eyes. He had a revolver cocked at his left hand, but a pen in his right; while manuscript lay before him, so that he must have been in the room for some time, and had extinguished his light only at my coming. He leaned over the table, and drew near to it a lounge on which the skin of a polar bear was spread.

"Sit here," he said, and at the bluff word my nerve came back to me. "You're a smart boy, and have ideas, but, like all little boys, your ideas don't go far enough. I was just the same when I was your age, always trying to climb perpendicular places, and always falling down again. Silly lad, to put your head into a business which never concerned you.

"I came here to-night to stop your murdering fifty innocent men," I said, but he started up at the words and raved like a maniac.

"And who made you judge? Who set you to watch me, or give your opinions on what I do or what I don't do? Who asked you whether you liked it or didn't like it?"

(To be continued.)

Another Scandal Spoiled.

"Oh, yes," said Miss Kidder, "Mrs. Henpeck set a trap for her husband last night, and——"

"You don't say?" exclaimed Miss Gaussip. "Why, I always thought him too harmless and timid——"

"Just so; too timid to set a mouse-trap. That's why she had to do it for him."—Philadelphia Press.

Helping Him Along.

Chapleigh—I say, old man, I wish you would intercede for me with that pretty cousin of yours.

Haverly—Sure, I will. Only the other day I told her you had more money than brains.

Chapleigh—What did she say?

Haverly—She wanted to know if you had as much as 30 cents.

Hurrah for Widows.

Tom—I hear Fred is married. I always thought he was too timid for anything of that kind.

Jack—Oh, he married a widow.

Tom—A widow! Where did he meet her?

Jack—He didn't meet her at all; she overtook him.

Good for Him.

Ascum—Markley has a very bad memory, hasn't he?

Borroughs—It depends on the way you look at it. I consider it very good.

Ascum—You do, eh?

Borroughs—Yes; he loaned me a "fiver" last spring and he's forgotten all about it.—Philadelphia Press.

Talking Shop.

"It took you years to learn all about the business in which you were so successful."

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox, "and mother and the girls say it is going to take me years more to forget about it."—Washington Star.

The famous palace occupied by the late George W. Childs, of the Philadelphia Ledger, which cost him over $1,000,000, is to be transformed into an apartment house.

Proposed Oregon Tax Law

(Continued from last week)

(Real estate tax a lien—What to include—Priority—Effect of sale.)

Section 28. All taxes which may be hereafter lawfully imposed, charged, or levied upon real property, including taxes on personal property charged upon real property as provided in the preceding section, shall be and they are hereby declared to be a lien upon such real property from and including the day on which the warrant authorizing the collection of such taxes upon real property is issued, and from and after the time the said taxes upon personal property are so charged upon real property, until they should be paid, or until the title shall be vested in the purchaser upon sale for such taxes. Such liens shall include all costs, penalties, charges, and expenses on, of and concerning such taxes which by the provisions of law shall accrue, attach, or be made. Such liens shall have priority to and shall be fully paid and satisfied before any and every judgment, mortgage, or other lien or claim whatsoever, except the lien for a tax for a subsequent year; and every certificate of delinquency, sale for taxes, or transfer of property under a tax judgment sale, whether void or ineffectual for any other purpose or not, provided only that the consideration required by law shall have been paid therefor, shall be deemed to assign to and vest in the holder, purchaser, or transferee the lien herein prescribed.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3108, no change, except to add personal taxes which have been charged upon real property, and to substitute "tax judgment sale" for "tax sale" to conform the section to the tax certificate of delinquency plan.)

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(Foreclosure—Summons or notice.)

Section 39. Any time after the expiration of three years from the first date of delinquency of any tax included in a certificate of delinquency the holder of such certificate may cause summons to be served on the owner of the property described in the certificate, notifying the owner that he will apply to the circuit court of the county in which such property is situated for a decree foreclosing the lien against the property mentioned in such certificate. Such summons shall contain—

1. The title of the court, the description of the property, and the name of the owner of the legal title thereof as the same appears of record, if known, the name of the holder of the certificate, the date thereof, and the amount for which it was issued, the year or years for the delinquent taxes for which it was issued, the amount of all taxes paid for prior or subsequent years, and the rate of interest on said amounts.

2. A direction to the owner of the legal title of the property as the same appears of record, if known, and of any other person or persons who may have some interest in or lien or claim upon the property, and whom the holder of said certificate may desire to make co-defendants, summoning him to appear within sixty days after service of summons or notice, exclusive of the day of service, and defend the action or pay the amount due; and, when service is made by publication, a direction as aforesaid summoning him to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of the summons, exclusive of the day of said first publication, and defend the action or pay the amount due.

3. A notice that, in case of failure to do so, a decree will be rendered foreclosing the lien of such taxes and costs against the land and premises named.

4. A summons shall be subscribed by the holder of the certificate of delinquency, or by some one in his behalf, and residing within the state of Oregon, and upon whom all process and papers in the proceeding may be served with the same force and effect as if personally served on the holder of said certificate within this state.

5. A copy of said summons shall be delivered to the tax collector. Thereafter, when any owner of real property or person interested therein seeks to redeem as provided in this act, the tax collector shall ascertain the amount of costs accrued in foreclosing said certificate and include said costs as a part of the redemption to be paid.

The proceeding provided by this act for the foreclosure of all certificates of delinquency issued pursuant to this act shall be commenced within six years from the date of the original delinquency, and not afterwards.

(Service of summons.)

Section 40. Summons shall be served and returned in the same manner as summons in a civil action is served in the circuit court.

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(Intersted persons may pay before execution of deed.)

Section 43. Any person owning an interest in lands or lots upon which judgment and decree is prayed, as provided in this act, may, in person or by agent, pay the taxes, assessments, penalties, interest, and costs due thereon to the tax collector of the county in which the same are situated at any time before the execution of the deed, and for the amount so paid he shall have a lien on the property liable for taxes, assessments, penalties, interest, and costs for which judgment is prayed; and the person or authority who shall collect or receive the same shall give a receipt for such payment, or issue to such person a certificate showing such payment.

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(Appeal—Appeal bond—Procedure.)

Section 47. Appeals from the final order, judgment, and decree of the court may be taken to the supreme court by giving notice thereof orally in open court at the time of the rendition of the judgment, decree or final order, or by giving written notice thereof at any time within thirty days after the rendition of said order, but not thereafter. The manner of taking and perfecting appeals to the supreme court and the proceedings thereon, and the determination and disposal thereof, shall conform to and be governed by the statutes for taking appeals in equitable causes, except in so far as this act may otherwise provide But no appeal shall be allowed the defendant from any judgment, decree, or final order for the sale of lands or lots for taxes, and no bond given on appeal shall operate as a supersedeas, unless the defendant taking such appeal shall, within the time allowed within which to file an undertaking on appeal, also deposit with the county clerk an amount of money equal to the amount of the judgment and costs rendered in such cause by the circuit court. If, in case of an appeal, such judgment, decree, and final order be affirmed, in whole or in part, the supreme court shall direct that the amount deposited with the county clerk as aforesaid, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be credited upon the judgment so rendered, and execution shall issue for the balance of said judgment, damages and costs. Thereupon it shall be the duty of such county clerk to apply so much of the amount deposited with him as aforesaid as shall be necessary to satisfy the amount of the judgment, decree, and final order. If, upon a final hearing, judgment shall be refused for the sale of the land or lots for the taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, or any part thereof, in said proceedings, the county clerk shall pay over to the party who shall have made such deposit, or his legally authorized agent or representative, the amount of the deposit, and in any event shall so refund so much thereof as shall remain after the satisfaction of the judgment, interest, and costs against the land or lots in respect to which such deposit shall have been made.

(Holder of certificate must pay taxes—Forfeiture.)

Section 48. Every purchaser of a certificate of delinquency shall, before applying for judgment and decree of foreclosure, pay all taxes that have accrued on the property included in said certificate since the issuance of said certificate, and any prior taxes that may remain due and unpaid on said property. If any purchaser of delinquent certificates shall suffer a subsequent tax to become delinquent, and a subsequent certificate of delinquency to issue on the same property included in his certificate, such first purchaser shall forfeit his rights thereunder to the subsequent purchaser, and such subsequent purchaser shall, at the time of obtaining his certificate of delinquency, redeem said first certificate of delinquency outstanding thereon to the date of said redemption, and the amount so paid in redemption shall become a part of said subsequent certificate of delinquency, and draw interest at the rate of fifteen per cent per annum from the date of payment. Said holder of a certicate of delinquency permitting a subsequent certificate to issue on the same property shall, on notice from the tax collector, surrender said certicate of delinquency on payment to him of the redemption money paid by the subsequent purchaser. Provided, that this section shall not apply to counties or municipalities.

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(Publication as costs.)

Section 52. In case any person shall be compelled to publish a notice in a newspaper under the provisions of this act, then, before any person who may have a right to redeem the lands or lots from sale shall be permitted to redeem, he shall pay to the officer who by law is authorized to receive such redemption money the amount paid for publishing such notice, for the use of the person compelled to publish such notice, as aforesaid.

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(Fees.)

Section 56. 1. The tax collector shall, upon the issuance of a certificate of delinquency, collect fifty cents. 2. For making a deed, to include not more than ten tracts or lots, including all services rendered, including sales and posting notices, three dollars. 3. The county clerk shall, upon filing application for judgment, and for all services rendered to and including judgments, collect two dollars. 4. The clerk of the court shall collect from each contestant at the time of filing such contest five dollars.

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(Assignment by owner.)

Section 60. Certificates of delinquency shall be assignable in law, and an assignment thereof shall vest in the assignee or his legal representatives all the right and title of the original purchaser.

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(Taxes void six years after delinquency.)

Section 66. All taxes heretofore or hereafter levied by any county, city, town, school district, road district, port or other municipal taxing agency or district of the state of Oregon, after the expiration of six years from the time when such taxes are delinquent, shall be void: Provided that this section shall not be construed as affecting any right acquired under or by virtue of the issuance of a certificate of delinquency provided for in this act.

(Lien creditor may pay tax.)

Section 67. Any person who has a lien by mortgage, or otherwise, upon any land on which the taxes have not been paid may pay or redeem such taxes and the interest and charges thereon; and the receipt of the person authorized to receive such tax or redemption money shall constitute an additional lien on such land to the amount therein specified, and the interest and charges thereon; and the amount so paid, and the interest and charges thereon, shall be collectible with, as part of, and in the same manner as the amount secured by the original lien.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3144, extended to include redemptions.)

(Payment of tax by occupant or tenant.)

Section 68. When any tax on any real estate shall have been paid by or collected from any occupant or tenant when there is some other person who, by agreement or otherwise, ought to pay such tax, or any part thereof, such occupant or tenant shall be entitled to recover by action the amount which such person should have paid, with interestt hereon; or he may retain the same out of any rent due or accruing from him to such person for real estate on which such tax is so paid.

(B. & C. Comp., section 3145, no change.)

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(Repealing section.)

Section 79. That chapters 5, 6, and 7, of title XXX of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Bellinger and William W. Cotton; and sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of an act approved December 24, 1903, and found upon page 4 et sequitur of the General Laws of the Special Session of 1903; and an act entitled "An act to amend section 3098 of Bellinger and Cotton's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Oregon," approved February 12, 1903; and an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to amend section 3098 of Bellinger and Cotton's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Oregon, approved February 12, 1903, and to declare an emergency," approved December 24, 1903 and chapters; 7, 53, 145, 156, 162, and 183 of the General Laws of Oregon, 1905; and an act filed in the office of the secretary of state December 24, 1903, entitled "An act to amend section 3122 of Bellinger and Cotton's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Oregon;" and an act entitled "An act to amend section 3091 of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, as annotated by Charles B. Belinlger and William W. Cotton, and giving the apportionment or revenues for the state among the several counties, and defining the method or proceeding in making the state apportionment," approved February 24, 1903; and all other acts and parts of acts amendatory of any of the acts and sections above set forth, and all acts and parts of acts in conflict herewith, be and the same hereby are repealed: Provided that the repeal of section 3086 of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Bellinger and William W. Cotton, shall not affect the duplicate thereof, section 3374 of said Codes and Statutes of Oregon, as the same is amended by an act approved February 24, 1903, and found upon page 214 of the General Laws of Oregon, 1903.

(Saving clause.)

Section 80. That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this act contained, all laws heretofore in force are continued in force and effect until all things and acts in and about the assessment, apportionment and levy of taxes upon the basis of ownership of property on the first day of March, 1907, and the assessment, apportionment, levy, and collection of taxes, and proceedings incident thereto, made or commenced prior to March 1, 1907, except as specified in section 55 of this act, have been fully and duly done and performed as fully as if this act had never been enacted, but the taxes levied on the basis of ownership of property on the first day of March, 1907, shall be collected as herein provided. This act shall not be construed to inhibit or take away the power of counties, incorporated cities or towns, school district, road districts, ports or other municipal corporations or agencies to levy such rate or amount of general or special taxes as now or heretofore by law they may be permitted or required to levy.

Running a Bank.

"Here's a story about a new automobile bank that has just been started in New York."

"I wonder how much of a run a depositor gets for his money?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Expensive.

Confidential Adviser—Senator, how much did your campaign cost you?

Senator Lotsmun—It was pretty expensive this time, Ringgold. It cost me one day's income and two or three nights' sleep.

Much the Same.

The American—I suppose you never heard a genuine Indian war whoop, did you?

The Englishman—No; but I've heard some of your college yells.

One Discordant Note.

Ruffon Wratz—The idee of your claimin' to be overworked, ye durned old hobo!

Tuffold Knutt—I am overworked, b'gosh! Fifty times a day I hev to explain how it is that I don't git no employment when the country is jist runnin' over wit' prosperity.

Uncle Allen.

"It's true," said Uncle Allen Sparks, "that a rose by any other name would smell as sweet, but it isn't the same way with an old cheese. You can shoot a little green paint into it and pass it off for Roquefort."

In Liquidation.

Scott (showing ring)—I'd hate to lose it. It's a diamond of the first water.

Mott—You said just now you'd soaked it three times.—Boston Transcript.