## WICKLY'S WOODS

CHAPTER XXI.—(Continued.) Mr. Billy Biler, talking very earnestprying among his white, even teeth with stock, real estate and newspaper com-

a goose quill toothpick, and constantly turning his white looking eyes out of Mrs. Wickly are doing, pauses a minute after having fairly stated his case, before he goes on to argue it.

Lizzy. Un if you haven't no vote you've gut influence—plenty of it! You are the very person to bring Coon Redden round all right. And I hope you'll do that fur

What else he said in the innumerable repetitions of every statement which he happened to think, as a lawyer, needed repeating, she could not remember. He ant father and Congressman Billy Biler staid long after her own somewhat af- of course. feeting meeting with her father. In fact, so far from having the delicacy to with-draw, he assumed an air of legal adviser and supervisor of the whole affair,

Wicklys, or the Weeklys, as they were indifferently called, dropped in to see the "Squar." It was plain that they still had the ways of the city! For instance, apprehensions serious apprehensions

the returned pateint, "Hello, 'Squar?" said Conrad Redden, way over hyur without restun? Better deuts above mentioned.

About that time, too the five young and fascinating presidents above mentioned.

About that time, too the five young and fascinating presidents above mentioned.

There was the deprecating solicitude in every word and look of Coonrod Redden's, that showed very plainly that he could not divest himself of the precon-ceived notion that the "Squar" still needed medical advice and supervision, and In his opinion, and that of the public of Sandtown, he might always need it.

"Well, I gut to go home now, Squar. Lizzy, you didn't come down to ar house this evenun? They was lokun fur yuh! I thenk Huntley wawnted to see yuh bad, 'fore he left."

"Is he gone?" she asked, with an unavailing effort to keep back the hot rush of blood to her face.

"Yes," said Conrad Redden, looking at that went at 8:30. I thought he druv up h-yur before he went. I'm shore he did. Didn't you see 'im?" He was looking at her rather scrutinizingly.

"Yes, he drove up h-yur jist shead of me," put in Mr. Biler, "but he couldn't ed and ran back in great and eager agistop a minute and he couldn't find where Lizzy was at. He said he'd write in reference to the payments on the land and the signing of deeds, and so on. Well, if you're ready, Coonrod, I'll go down with you a piece."

Congressman Billy Biler having been John Wickly's attorney in the prosecu-tion of his claim against the English crown for his thirteen hundred and twen-ty-fourth of the Wicklif estate, naturally Wicklys' pretty and accomplished daughter as she was termed by the very first issue of the Sandtown Gazette, after the fabulous purchase of the Wickly Woods by the munificent S. .. S. W.

In this capacity of attorney and coun selor, Mr. Billy Biler found it indispensable to the proper conduct of the business that he should put in an appearance at the Wickly house at least once a day, when he was not in company with great city of the lakes that was faster and faster reaching out across the prairies and drawing unto itself all the ambition and all the enterprise of the Wabash country.

The question of the proper, safe and profitable investment of such large sums money being one in which Miss Lizzy Wickly herself must actually be consulted in direct reference to her opinion achieved upon a personal inspection of the property or securities, it also became indispensable that she should be a mem ber of the traveling party on many of these expeditions to that grasping and reaching, and hauling city that to be seriously attempting the feat of spreading itself all over the great yellow contiguous to it.

She had been to the city once before er first trip in the character of heiresa. That was on a rainy afternoon when the great flat prairie looked like a mighty pool, whise and boundless, and bleak and chill. Then she had seen the little, new, somber-hued cottages, dripping with rain, and the great smoke-blackened parallelograms of brick, looking so illimitable in their interlacing reduplications as the cars flew along them-that it had been days before she recovered from the sense of loneliness and depression that the inevitable contrasting of her own little familiar Sandtown with this mighty blackbrowed, puffing, roaring, steaming, ring-ing, reaching and grabbing city had caus-"I'll be right heart

Not at all the less had she remembered Cappen Joe Ellet up awn Big Hattle-the very different sense of quiet Sabbath snake Crick? Well, I'm little Joe Ellet's loneliness that had displaced the other, son! Bud Ellet! You've h-yearn um talk on her return to Sandtown. How still about Bud Ellet? Clabber-eyed Bud, and oppressively slow and quiet, and de they usen to call me! My eyes is all liberate this little old Sandtown was, to

Now, however, it was as a well-known rich and unmarried young woman that she went. And how differently everything appeared to her. Surely wealth does something!

It was the president's own car that took her. And how many gallant and accomplished gentlemen were introduced Lizzy Wickly found an opportunity to

by the president himself! She had never dreamt that here could be in all the world one-half so many pres-idents as she met on every trip. There periods of possible new presidents, and

were presidents of banks, and presidents of railroads, and presidents of insurance companies, and presidents of mining.

panies, and—these were only a foretaste. What agreeable and accomplished gentheir corners so as to see what Mr. and tlemen they were, too! How they were perpetually putting this and that, and the other, at her disposal. What bales of invitations she received to every imagin-"So now you're the heaviest taxpayer able kind of an entertalnment, public and in this county, by a long ways, Miss private. And how was she astonished to find that her very first visit designed originally to occupy but three days, drew itself irresistibly and inexorably into four weeks, in which time she had gone with each and every president in the known world, she believed, to some fascinating entertainment of some sort or other-always chaperoned by her happy and buoy-

The newspapers had annoyed her a litthe by publishing apparently well authouticated statements, always from reliable ources, and conveying the detailed inmaking remarks upon the various phases formation of her approaching marriage of the unhappy portion of this episode with a certain brilliant young Congressthat were intended to be humorous and man and four or five young and fascinatlight, but which were, in fact, coarse and ing presidents of banks and railroads. But her natural buoyant organisation soon enabled her to so far overcome her Again, the good-natured people of soon enabled her to so far overcome her Sandtown who "neighbored" with the annoyance as to permit her to hugh as heartly as could her jubilant father.

And how quickly she learned some of had not completed the second week of her of the mental condition and stability of first stay, until she had acquired the returned pateint. Hoosierdom-of having a headache just when he came in some time after 11 o'clock at night. "Hits mighty late fur the time when, had it not been for the timely interposition of the said head-urse farmers to be up, but I've gut to shake han's. Howre yuh feelun, Squar, entertain Congressman Billy Biler, or one

> about the beginning of the era of the headaches, she fell into the habit of taking her father's left arm and slipping out of the side entrance of the hotel, and then walking him all up and down State street and Wabash avenue, and goodness only knows where she didn't walk him,

coording to his own asservations! On one of these walks she had acted such an unaccountably strange and reckless way as to seriously disconcert her father, and even begin to make him think that the city was entirely too exciting for her; although nobody could deny that it was just the thing for him.

They had been talking about Mr. Mason Huntley. Or, to speak more accurately, he had been talking about that her curiously and contemplatively, "he's mysterious and seclusive gentleman who gone. He had to light out on that train | had not shown himself or signified in any way whether he yet held residence on any part of this planet, when all at once Lizzy stopped, dropped his arm, ran a little way down the sidekalk, and just

"Call that cab, father! Quick, or he won't hear you! There! Cab! Cab! Cab!" She had screamed out in such a shrill, resonant, penetrating Hoosier, Reelfoot Prairie voice, that two or three cabs came dashing up that way. Then she had literally broken into one of them before the driver could open the door, and pulling her father in by the collar had stood up where she could see and tell the driver where to go.

ment of the much greater estate that had suddenly and fortuitously fallen to John Wicklys' pretty and account of the manage to go first this way and then that, and now to gallon his horsest that had now to gallon his horsest t And my! but she did tell him. round and dodge down a cross street somewhere! What a lot of wagon drivers stopped and shook their whips at that cabman! But he was a conscientious fellow, and obeyed orders with a single ness of purpose and an energy that would have insured success if success had been one of the attainable things.

But it wasn't. The young lady showed after awhile a wavering and a besitancy in her directions that discovered an irres olution not incompatible with the stern and peremptory decision of her earlier manner. At the end of the half-hour she gave it up, and told the cabman to drive back to the hotel.

As Mr. John Wickly handed her out at the side entrance and hunted the cabman's fare out of his vest pocket, he anid:

"Lizzy, if you take me such another chase I'll start right back to Sandtown with you on the spot.

"Sandtown!" cried the cabman in smiling surprise and evident gratification. "Sandtown, Indyanny?" "Yes."

."Well, by gum! I used to live right spreading itself all over the great yellow down there at the lower end uv Roelfoot and purple-flowered prairies outlying and Pon myself. Know everybody from there up to the Overcoat road. Anything else I kin do fur yuh!" There was m much of that remarkable Hoosler trait of being acquainted with you" as Soonrod Redden would have put it, in the words and manner of the cabman, that Lizzy instantly beckoned him to her and held a low-toned conversation with him, in which her father only heard this:

"Whut? The yaller'n? The yaller-wheeled buggy? Why, I'd a kotch that yaller-wheeled buggy way up h-yonder at Madison street of I'd knowed hit was

Then there was more of this conversa tion in an undertone, ending with this,

"I'll be right h-yar to the minute. H-yur's my number. You knowed old right now. Un I'll do anything I kin fur you folks! Jist lemmy know." And the cabman was up and off.

On the next day there were more presidents to take them to new places of interest, and Bud was sent away empty as to his cab, but with his fare in pocket, against his earnest protest. In fact, it was not during that visit that her by Congressman Billy Biler, and ride as far as she wished in Bud Ellet's

cab. But on the second or third, perhaps,

had bowled along those delightful, long, whole afternoon. Again had John Wick-ly made Mr. W. Mason Huntley the subject of their conversation. He had been to the city office of the S. & S. W. to make inquiries as to his whereabouts. There he had found that Mr. Huntley was only a special agent of the com-pany, and nobody could tell him anything about where he was at present.

They did not know whether he was in the employ of the company, even. And as to knowing where he lived, and such like minutiae, that was too much for the red headed young man who was writing at a desk all the time he was making short and pointed answers to these questions. The president might know, but he was out of the city. Ah! where was he? Mr. Wickly had ventured to ask. Where? And there was astonishment for you, on that clerk's face! He had said out of the city! And there were only two geographical points to him-one of which was in the city, and that was of vast import, while the other was out of the city, and that was of no import at

Mr. Wickly, with his great exhibitation, and his fair average sense of huwas making this conversation in the repetition, as ludicrous as possible for the purpose of amusing his daughter For when they were alone was utterly unlike her old self-being dull, absent-minded and brooding, or surprisingly excited and auxious.

For this purpose, too, he had told her ow every man and boy along the Big Rattlesnake Creek had procured long iron rods for drilling in the ground, and were spending their Sundays and rainy days. when they couldn't "plaw for wheat," in rambling over the bills north of the Overcont road, drilling down into and belaw the yellow clay, nifer coal. And many of them had found good veins, too! And the whole country was wild about it! And companies were being formed to work these mines. And the Sandtown Farmers' Bank had resumed business, with Columbus Redden as cashier and president. And money was plenty again.

Lizzy, springing straight up off her seat, and fairly screaming to Bud Ellet, through the little aperture in the roof of the cab, back of his seat!
"I seed ut!" Bud answers, swinging

his whip. "Blame fi don't run the theng to uts hole this time." And away they go at a terrific pace up the street with a yellow-wheeled, top

buggy, with the top laid back, leading them about a square, and fairly hum-ming along "after a mighty good step-per," as Bud turned to inform Lizzy.

Nor was it a very difficult task this time, for Bud Ellet to "run the theng to uts hole." The "theng" made a com-paratively short run of six or eight squares up the thoroughfare, and then turned upon a little, short, quiet street to the left, and stopped before a small, plain two-story cottage.

Directing Bud to wait and watch the orse that had been tied to a hatching -Lizzy, preceding her father, ran up the front steps, and finding no door bell, turned the knob, pushed the door open and walked into a little hallway. Through an open doorway on her left she saw a man standing beside a little table, and removing his gloves slowly and abstractedly, as he looked down at some plans and diagrams, drawn in broad red and

black lines upon a wide sheet of paper, "At last I've chased you to your lair," Lizzy said, as she threw the door wide open and almost ran into the room, with her right hand outtsretched in good, hearty Hoosier fashion, and her pretty face beaming. "How do you do, Mr. Huntley? And haven't you treated me wretchedly! Positively wretchedly!"

(To be continued.)

RAILWAY SAFETY.

Standards on Better American Roads se High se in England.

American railways have recently ome in for considerable unfavorable criticism on account of the number of ally nothing about the application of serious accidents in some of the less thickly populated districts of the United States, while at the same time English roads have been praised as having attained a combination of speed and safety unknown in this country. As acre used in California is about 50 per neatter of fact, many American raffonds are gradually being brought to standard of safety which is fully as high as the English, while the comfort of passengers is given far more attention here than on the other side of the

railroading is primarily dependent on general control of the Agricultural tically infallible. This is attained by pump and machinery houses in this a combination of automatic machinery city are also collecting data, this be and human intelligence, each of which ing the natural result of the installasupplements the other and each of tion of plants in different portions of which is powerless to do anything the State, on different soils and for the without the consent of the other. In ourse of different crops. the operation of such a system the salient feature is the division of the gineers in charge of Federal work in road into short sections or "blocks" by Nevada that a miner's inch of water means of signals worked primarily by would irrigate 500 acres of land. This an electrical connection with the ralls. is not the Colorado experience. Even On the New Haven system, for In- California rejects it, the San Francisco stance, which has built up a line of 233 Call alleging that the estimate is unmiles from Boston to New York that sound and is not supported by Califorcomplies with all the requirements nia experience, dating back to the time found necessary in American experi- of the missions, when the Franciscans ence for safety, these blocks are from brought with them the experience of half a mile to four miles in length. Egypt and the Orient. A train cannot enter one of them until the preceding train has left it, a timate-500 acres to one miner's inch fact indicated by the rising of an automatic semaphore at its further end, at Yuma and in the Klamath district which protects the next block shead. of California. His allowance for The system is so arranged that the Yuma, if we understand him correctnormal position of all semaphores is ly, is 680 cubic feet of water per acre. at danger and were the towerman a which is not quite three-sixteenths of maniac he could do no harm beyond an inch per acre. That is a very thin neglecting to lower a signal at the sheet of water to spread upon land in proper time to let approaching trains a region where the evaporation is through. He might tie up all traffic twelve or fifteen feet per year. "We on the road in this way, but he could doubt very much," says the Call,

cause no accidents. bridges have been brought as near per- ing constantly for ninety days will suffection as ingenuity can bring them, fice for an acre and a half, we have the safety of others than their passen- this result: In an acre and a half are gers is not neglected by the well-man- 65,340 square feet, which a miner's aged railroads. Between New York and New Haven, for example, a distance of seventy-three miles, there are no grade crossings at all and between New Haven and New London there are only five, none of which is considered dangerous.

## GRANDFATHER OF EUROPE.



KING CHRISTIAN IX. OF DENMARK

King Christian IX, of Denmark, who recently celebrated his eighty-seventh birthday, has been called the grandfather of Europe. His cidest daughter is Queen Alexandra of England. His second eldest is the Dowager Duchess of Russia, mother of the Czar. His third daughter is the Duchess of Cumberland, her husband being a son of the ex-King of Hanover. His eldest son will succeed to the Danish throne, while the second son is King George I, of the Hellenes. The remaining son, Prince Waldemar, was offered the principality of Bulgaria, but wisely declined.

King Christian is one of the most beloved monarchs in Europe and is extremely popular in Denmark. Despite his age he retains the clasticity and bearing of a young man. He has been reigning since 1863-a period of fortytwo years. Our illustration is taken from the Illustrated London News and shows the King, with the Castle of Rosenborg, one of the royal palaces, in

Conquest of the Great American Desert

The officials of the reclamation department of the United States geologlcal survey have taken the field for the most active campaign thus far undertaken for the benefit of the people's heritage—the public lands of America, estimated to measure 841,-872,377 acres, of which 172,873,079 acres have been reserved by law for forest culture, Indians and other purposes, leaving 704,704,384 acres open sin the season of crop growth. to reclamation and ultimate settlement. Colorado contains 35,831,506 acres of this heritage, of which 4,098,-543 have not yet been surveyed.

In connection with irrigation entersea and to enlighten number of settlers who know practicwater to the soil and to growing crops, the San Francisco Call discusses the "quantity of water allotted to a given area of irrigable land." Taking the States as a whole, the quantity per cent of the Colorado average. This would appear to convict Colorado of needless waste, but as the nature of the soil and the kind of crop irrigated. together with rainfall, are factors in the problem, it is not safe to conclude without careful comparison. This is now going forward at Fort Collins and From the American standpoint safe at other experiment stations under the system of signals which are prac- Department. Experts connected with

It has been stated by one of the en-

In support of his liberal Nevada es--Expert Lippincott quotes conditions whether it will sustain growing crops. While signal systems, roadbeds and If he means that a miner's inch flowinch in ninety days would cover about fifteen inches. He allows eighteen inches at Klamath for the crop sea son, against fifteen inches at Yuma. But the record of thirty-six years' nual precipitation of three and four- and take my medicine."

tenths inches only, while at Klamath it is thirty-six to fifty inches."

Experiments the world over show that land requires about three feet of water during the growing season to produce a crop. This is averaging all absorptive conditions of the soil and all rates of evaporation. Italy, in the valley of the Po, has long established a scientific irrigation, and the averper second to about sixty-six acres, in same land has a rainfull of between thirty-five and forty inches, of which twenty-two inches falls in the season of growing crops. So the irrigated land of Italy gets about 130 inches of irrigation water and twenty-two inches of rain, or a little over twelve feet

This feature of the irrigation probit is basic in the matter of dividing up chances, the government experts fast wiping the half-breed out of exshould lean to the conservative rather latence. than the hopeful side. A sesson of reaction would materially injure the reclamation project.-Denver News.

Luxemburgers Are tontent. length of time in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg agree that the Luxemburgers are the most contented people on the face of the earth, writes Henri these people for a number of years, if Chevaller in the Cincinnati Enquirer. Though of very small area the popula- the disease in them. Then their caretion represents many nationalities. It appears to form part of Belgium and the spring the half-breed wades out in one has to penetrate toward the capttal from the border quite a bit before cold and, unlike the Indian, is unable the Belgian dialects cease to be heard. Then there is quite a Dutch element, ally is also weaker than the Indian. Half of the people speak French and He has all the vices of both the red there are many Germans, as is shown man and the white man and few of by the two German papers printed in their virtues." the little capital of 22,000 inhabitants.

That the people are happy is because the Grand Duchy is independent, at peace with all its neighbors, has most of whom are neither rich nor

Of Grand Duke Wilhelm, the regent, it cannot be said that "uneasy lies the head that wears the crown," for no lukewarm, and who was then with ruler is better beloved by his subjects. He was married in 1893 to the Infanta

the Luxemburgers. The old Grand down, as I do?" Duke Adolf of Luxemburg, the real ruler, is still alive. He is a nonagenarian and, though be abdicated in favor of Wilhelm in 1902, he still takes a deep interest in all the state and court

Tommy Learns. meant by the newspaper expression bleeding Kansas'?

Paw Figgjam-That is what John D. Rockefeller has been accused of. Tommy Figgjam-Of what?

ther.-Baltimore American.

Bill Bowers, who has been sick, said this afternoon: "Well, as I can't reasonably expect any more strangers to ratnfall at Yuma shows an average an- tell me how thin I look, I will go home DARING TRIP BY WIRE.

Journey of an Adventurous Swiss Down a Steep Mountain.

A daring feat, in which death is defied, is daily performed at Geneva, Switzerland, by M. Chaputs, a professor in the university of that place, The professor lives in a little village in the valley below the city and when his day's instruction is ended he slides down a steel wire cable, nearly half a mile long, toward his home. The cable was originally erected to convey blocks of limestone from quarries above the city to the valley. At some points it is 300 feet above the surface of the ground.

The cable is three-quarters of an inch thick and from the valley the highest part of it can hardly be seen with the naked eye, the daring performer having the appearance of floating in space when mounted upon it. At one point in the distance covered there is a span of about 980 feet between the supports, at a height of 160 feet. The angle varies from 40 to 50 degrees and the greatest difficulty M. Chapuls experiences is to prevent himself from slidling down too quickly. During his initial trip down the steep incline he burned his hands terribly



trying to hold himself back, and even then the speed of his descent was such as to tear his clothing to shreds. Since that first trip he has gone down natride a saddle of stout leather.

Perhaps the greatest difficulty he exerlenced, however, was that of keeping his balance on the swaying wire. Until several trips had accustomed him to it, the tendency was to turn over head downward during the descent. Realizing that this would mean inabilage duty of water is one cubic foot lity to maintain his hold of the wire and death on the rocks several huncontinuous flow. But Italy on the dred feet below, the intrepid man fought bravely against it and finally succeeded in mastering the secret of keeping his balance.

Haif-Breeds Dying Off.

"There will be full-blooded Indians in the Canadian Northwest when there are no half-breeds." These were the words of a veterau trader just lem deserves close attention, because from the far north-Henry A. Cabler -a stalwart Natty Bumppo in cordulands. The settlers should know in roys, says the St. Paul Disputch, advance what the chances for success "Consumption," this observant leather really are, and, in estimating those stockings says, "is the blight which is

"Nine out of ten half breeds die of consumption," he continued. swift are the ravages of this disease among these people that the fire in the cemetery is always kept burning All tourists who have spent any to thaw out the ground that the graves may be dug.

"The Indian does not seem to suffer like his half-brother. After watching seems to me that they are born with less, slovenly life helps it along. In the sloughs and ponds and catches a to throw it off. The half-breed mor-

An Example to Follow.

"What were the last figures on the bulletin for Brown?' demanded Mr. but a small army to support and im- Harris, when he and his son had been poses little tax on the inhabitants, at home half an hour, and his vexation at the way the election seemed to be going had cooled a trifle.

"I don't remember," said John, whose interest in the election was but Nansen in the "Farthest North."

"Don't remember!" thundered his Maria Anna of Portugal, who is the father. "Don't remember, sir! If you mother of Princesses Marie, Charlotte, are so stupid you can't remember a Hilds, Antonia, Elizabeth and Sophie. few important figures for ten minutes The family is fairly worshiped by at a time, why don't you write them

> Those Government Seeds. Bacon-Did you get any seeds from our Congressman this year?

Egbert-Sure. "Plant any?"

"No, I'm not going to. Last year I planted some beautiful American Tommy Figgjam-Paw, what is Beauty rosebush seed and it come up onlons."-Yonkers Statesman.

No Lack of Variety.

A traveling salesman just back from Maine says, in the Boston Record, that Paw Figgjam-Bleeding Kansas and he recently asked an old fisherman in Kansas objects to being bled any fur- a snow-bound hamlet what he did with himself evenings.

"Oh," said the old man, easily, "sometimes I set and think, and then again I just set."

Ever know of a man who admitted sating strawberries with skim milk?