JOHN BURT

By FREDERICK UPHAM ADAMS

Author of "The Prince of Graustark," "The Adventures of Lieutenant Jack Hall," "The Fortunes of Fifi," Etc.

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CHAPTER XXVI.—Continued.

"Now, Burt," continued the genial financier, grasping John Burt's hand, "I'm glad to see you back in town, and I'm glad to see you looking so well. I see that you can stand the trick without one. It takes nothing more to suit me."

"Yes," returned John.

"Well, you'll get her. I'll back your grandfather against anybody, she is waiting for you. Speaking of Peter Burt, how old did you say he was?"

"Ninety almost."

"And you think me to see him. Think I'll wait until he's a hundred," declared Mr. Thomas Lee. "Jolting aside, I'll go with you any day you suggest and I'll be mighty glad to run with the old man. Only I'll promise not to answer again to his presence."

They talked for hours, and Hawkins listened with interest to the discussions made by Sam Rounds concerning the Cosmopolitan improvement Company.

A messenger arrived with a sealed letter from the sidepiece, informing John Burt that his lottery money had been paid over or deposited. With the express allowance supposed to be purchased, Mr. Lee found a total majority of four in favor of his new franchises.

He was in the act of speaking the success that he had fixed the dinner party to Sam Rounds, Mr. Hicks and Blake for Tuesday evening—the date of the council session when the ordinances would come up for final action. "Five votes in the bag, I think," he should, none to like while he was enjoying the kindness of Mrs. Clay Burt's presence. The combination of this pleasure and the dinner party was a rare one.

The dinner should celebrate his formal engagement to Jessie Carden. The more he considered over this brilliant coup the more entrancing did it seem.

His carriage drew up at the Bishop residence an hour before the time

set for the dinner. He waited with impatience for others, and was effusive in his greeting when she entered the drawing-room.

"You are more than prompt, Mr. Morris," said Jessie, offering her hand.

"I have something to say to you, to you alone, Jessie, are we likely to be disturbed here?"

"I think not. What weighty secret have you to discuss, Mr. Morris? Pray be seated."

The great house was silent, and the parlor light at the entrance was flooded the room. Jessie was superb as she seated herself on the cushioned bow to a cushion told her was forthcoming. She could not find in his manner the slightest feeling of pity or sympathy for Arthur Morris.

"I have waited years for this moment," he said, dramatically. His face paled slightly as he spoke and was abashed. "From the hour I saw you in Hingham I have hardened me, and now I ask you to be my wife. As you know, I think a great deal of you, more than I know how to tell you! The devotion of an old governess endorses my choice. Say you will have me, Jessie!"

He had not forgotten the perversion of his candidacy. Jessie's face was self-hearsed proposal, and concluded by dropping clumsily on his knees. There was more of demand than of pleading in his manner.

Jessie Carden's eyes flashed as she looked down at him.

"Arise, Mr. Morris," said Jessie as used to the scene, "you are not artistically grew away from him. "I cannot marry you. You must respect this answer—I will not."

Her voice was low, but firm, and Mr. Morris struggled to his feet.

"You told me that you liked me, you, and I have trusted," he exclaimed, hotly. "I have waited and reward for my patience and for my kindness to you."

"I told you I would not marry without your consent, and I have kept it. I made no other promise. I shall not change my mind. I dislike you," declared Miss Carden, rising from the General Quinn. You certainly have not considered her a "pet" of long. Since our dinner engagement promises no pleasure to either of us I will release you from it. Further, since we cannot continue to be with each other, I will ask you to—"

"Don't say it!" cried Mr. Morris, "don't say it, Miss Carden. Your dismissal is in the room. Your absence will be unbearable—well, it shall not be!"

He turned abruptly and left the room. Your absence will be unbearable—well, it shall not be!"

He turned abruptly and left the room. To attend to-night's session of the council was impossible. "Tell Mr. Lee I'm sick, Jim."

"I do, to, but I have another engagement," replied Blake. "I'll try to get there, though, if I can get away in time."

Long before the chairman called the city council to order, at 8 P. M., the air was already with tobacco smoke. There was little that was interesting to the impersonal of the municipal Solons. Only the Mayor himself was present, and slightly. It is a sad reflection that the average city council is a fairly representative of its constituents. It is composed of ignorance, deceit and cupidity; of the "Shrine" and the "Shrine," relieved by a sprinkling of men who are honest and unpretending men. Righteousness exercises a very small influence in the average body of public indignation, and corrupt practices are tolerated in the belief that shrewdness and astuteness are to be admired.

The latter quality had been displayed and decided when the chairman announced that the hour for the consideration of the franchises of the Cosmopolitan Improvement Company had arrived. A clerk read the ordinances, and the chairman was profuse with a copy of them.

Alderman Hendricks arose and was recognized. He was the self-appointed champion of a Cosmopolitan franchise, and had made copious memoranda of the arguments in favor of the pending ordinances. He was, however, moved by his constituency to vote in the negative, and he was not to be discouraged. He decided relief from the exactions of a paving monopoly. Proper intervals were readily repudiable schools whose teachers were not paid their salaries. There could be no intelligent, sensible, self-respecting man who considered it his duty to vote against the proposition. He took a breath, and warm all that was paid for it.

Others followed in a similar strain, but Alderman Hicks spoke differently. A tall, stalwart citizen in the early thirties, he was a man of few words, but of considerable influence. Other speakers were made, for and against, the ordinances, and then Alderman Herrick moved the previous question. The motion was carried, and the clerk began to call the roll.

"First ward—Alderman Patrick."

"Aye," said Patrick in a confusion. The chorus replaced vigorously.

"Alderman Schuster."

"Aye," sounded a chorus of voices. The rather weak "Aye" followed in the appointment.

"Alderman Reynolds" called the clerk.

A tall, awkward man rose and faced the chairman. His red hair was plentifully sprinkled with gray, and his head seemed in the way. In one of them he held a roll of bills, and in the other some loose papers. He raised his head and looked at the chairman before he they rested for a moment on John Burt.

"Mr. President, I desire to explain my vote on these ordinances."

"Proceed, sir," was the reply. The Cosmopolitan partisans believed that Alderman Reynolds was "coming over" to their side, and were willing to hear his explanation. They were anxious for his change of heart.

"Mr. President," began Alderman Rounds, placing his papers on the desk, "I have in my hand, and in my pockets, two years ago, when the original ordinances for this franchise came up for passage, I voted as' spoke against them. I was opposed to them as' said do. When these bills were proposed I made a careful study of them. At first I was not in favor of them, but gradually I became convinced the subject to me in a new light, and I agreed to vote for the passage of the ordinances under consideration to-night.

The Cosmopolitan aldermen joined the clique in the applause which followed the explanation.

"Mr. Chairman, continued Alderman Rounds, assuming an easy attitude in the aisle, "I don't suppose there's any money in it for me. I don't suppose there's any money better's I do. When I s. ann to Massachusetts it was the poorest investment I ever made. I've done pretty fairly middlin' well."

Alderman Rounds reached out and picked a small package from the desk and looked at it longingly. Alderman Hendricks, however, he chair he gazed uneasily at the speaker. There was a suspicion in his mind that had caused a bust to fall on the assembly.

"Mr. President," said Alderman Rounds, slowly unwrapping the package, "as an honest citizen this is the greatest argument in the world. Laugh is a fine thing for mankind, and I admire the man who has the gift of eloquence. But the chief argument I engage from my ward, but money can give eloquence, and nothing can beat it every time. Money—"

Mr. Hicks had intercepted Alderman Hendricks, "we desire to proceed with this vote—much as we are charmed by the remarks of the gentlemen about money as an abstract proposition. The question before the board is the disposition of these ordinances. I demand that the aldermen record his vote."

"Alderman Rounds has the floor," decided the chairman.

"Thank you," "I'll not take up much of your time," said Sam Rounds. "As I was saying, the uncommonly root of money, as' when the president of the Cosmopolitan Improvement company came to my place of business and said he would pay me ten thousand dollars for my vote in favor of these ordinances, I just scratched my head, center, as' told him I would consider the matter. I was considering else in the world but that figure, but my first opinion after it, as' a dollar mark in front of it. Ten thousand, you never had to work hard or trade for a livin', as' I've been doing all my life when he placed this here package in my hand."

Sam tore away the wrapping and disclosed a pile of new bank-notes. Every eye in the room was fixed on the package. Mr. Hicks rose to his feet, and laid them on the chairman's table, while the attention of every member of the opposition dared interrupt.

"I'll be continued."

Mr. Hillyer's Large Alarm.

Mr. Hillyer is a very early sleeper. He was a one, also, with a chronic fear of fire, and he had a few things that led him to have the window of his room on the second floor with a burglar alarm of the latest and most approved pattern.

A few mornings after the device had been installed Mr. Hillyer came down to breakfast with a grin on his face.

"Well, Hillyer, what's the joke?" he said. "I dreamed that a burglar broke into the house and the alarm went off, but for dear life I couldn't get it. He remained in the house, drawers, food, watch and pocketbook. I'll go and see what's left."

He went upstairs and returned in a few minutes with the burglar alarm and watch and pocketbook. I'll go and see what's left."

He went upstairs and returned in a few minutes with the burglar alarm and watch and pocketbook. The watch and pocketbook he laid on the table, but took it again.—Tonic's Companion.

When His Head Swelled.

As illustrative of the exhilarating effect of liquor, Alderman Hendricks Odell tells the story of a switchman who took a drink of whisky for the first ought to be section boss. He took another drink and felt like a king. He became superintendent." He took two or three drinks and felt that he could be general manager of the railroad. Then he took a drink and thought he should be president of the United States.

It was a miserable day that exposes pike approaching. The switchman took another drink and began to think of the train ahead of a standstill.

"Get out of the way!" he commanded the conductor.

"Get out yourself," replied the conductor. "I am."

And a switchman bodily pulled out his watch and said, "Seven-two minutes late. Don't let this happen again."

Illinois News

TRAMP GETS SMALLPOX OUTFIT

Three Institutions and Chief Schooling Are Put Out of Business.

Thieves who stole rotten clothing and filthy bedding from the pesthouse shanty at the city quarantine station at Alton, Ill., on Wednesday, spread smallpox germs broadcast in the city. Three institutions and the chief of police are quarantined.

The thieves were Sam Alexander Rounds, placing his papers on the desk, "I have in my hand, and in my pockets, two years ago, when the original ordinances for this franchise came up for passage, I voted as' spoke against them. I was opposed to them as' said do. When these bills were proposed I made a careful study of them. At first I was not in favor of them, but gradually I became convinced the subject to me in a new light, and I agreed to vote for the passage of the ordinances under consideration to-night.

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Alexander was found in the pesthouse shanty by the police, who had been notified of the theft. He was taken to the quarantine at Alta Sita, and the clothing and bedding he had stolen were burned. Depositing his rubber coat on the floor, Alexander rolled on it, and he lay down and was soon lost in slumber. About him lay the thief entered the room and, seeing the outfit, filth and rags, at once decided it was the thing to use the police in his trade. He did not know that the clothes were in better training than the physician, however, and soon gave him the slip. Dr. Short advises all citizens who are approached by a seedy-looking tramp with a physical outfit to call the police to see that the reception he deserves.

Two Big Mortgages.

Two mortgages were filed in the recorder's office in Belleville, the first for $100,000, given to the Colonial Trust Co. of New York by the Bonanza National Investment and Manufacturing Company of East St. Louis, covering the property of the Western Force company in the latter city, and executed one by the Alton, Granite & St. Louis Traction company and the Illinois Bridge Trust company of East St. Louis, Belleville, covering the properties that concern in St. Clair and Madison counties, for $1,000,000.

Wreck Safe, but Miss Money.

At 2 o'clock in the morning burglars entered the store of Ward & Ward, at Magnolia, eleven miles from Peoria, blew open the safe, wrecked the vault with dynamite. However, the funds in the vault were not secured. The explosion frightened them, disturbed and forced to flee to escape detection.

APPOINTED PRESIDING ELDER.

The Rev. A. M. White, who has been made presiding elder of the Chicago Western district of the Methodist Rock River conference, for the last six years has been pastor of the First Methodist church of Aurora. White

His pastorate the church debt has been paid and a new structure erected. During his pastorate Austin church has raised $90,000. Mr. White formerly was pastor of churches at Elgin, at North Halsted street, Chicago, and at one time was chaplain at the Joliet penitentiary.

Stockholders' Elections.

The stockholders of the Hillsboro Elk Milling company met in Hillsboro and elected the following directors: L. V. Hill, James Hill, Thomas Hill, Jacob J. Frye, Charles W. Gressel, J. C. Chamberlain, Gus A. Lange and E. Colvin and Charles W. Bliss. The officers of the company are chosen by the directors, are: Isaac Hill, president; Jacob J. Frye, vice president; W. Hillsmon, secretary; Guy C. Lane, treasurer.

Young Woman Takes Poison.

Miss Pearl Bryant, aged 21 years, of Caseyville, attempted to commit suicide by drinking carbolic acid in a stable at St. Louis. She was found by Frank Schaefer, a boarder at the same by Louis Schafer, who was on the lower floor of the stable. When taken to the city hospital the girl refused to tell why she had tried to end her life, further than to state that she was despondent.

Invites Schoolmaster's Club.

The Rev. Dr. Hillis, a former high school, has invited the Schoolmasters' club of Illinois to meet in Peoria, and to hold the next session in Decatur.

Pastor to Leave Alton.

Rev. L. M. Waterman, pastor of the Upper Alton Baptist church, has tendered his resignation, which he intends to take effective at once. He has received a call to become assistant pastor of a church at Minneapolis, Minn.

Frightened Footpickers Robbed.

Two footpickers were frightened by the patrolman Lockland. The robbers were Thomas Hamilton and Fred Schmidt. A driver of the "American Express company

BICYCLE PERFORMER IS HURT

Accident Mars Last Day's Exhibition at Cecelia's Fall Carnival.

Henry Hoffman, who is known as "Dare-devil Tinker," sustained serious injuries while making his leap on a bicycle on an incline plane, seventy feet high, to a tank of water, at Cecelia. This act was the concluding feature of the carnival at that place, and an immense crowd had gathered to witness Hoffman's perilous feat. Owing to lack of sufficient momentum, the bicycle struck the brink of the tank, striking the edge in his fall, and crushing his left leg. He was taken to his home, and of the left to one of the physicians was summoned. His home is in Chicago, where he has a wife and one child.

STATE LABOR LEADER.

Barney Cohen, who has just been re-elected president of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, has for a long time been a leader in labor circles. He has been a member of Cigarmakers'

ers' Union No. 14 of Chicago for 25 years, and has held many important positions in the organization. He is also a member of the executive board of the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Woman Head of Family.

Mrs. Alice Hall filed a claim in the Alton police court that astonished the police officials present. She filed with a schedule of her personal effects in order to secure exemption. It consisted of five and cents imposed upon her by alleged creditors who sought to collect. She claimed that she was the head of a family consisting of a husband and one child. The humane society officers have been notified that Mrs. Hall pay the fine, and if not the existence of an execution that she filed her schedule in order that she might save her only possessions were a sewing machine, a diamond ring, a set of china dishes and a gold watch.

Steal Part of Sewage.

Charles Wilson and Fred Lockland, to the Alton police that a party of St. Louis men had seized a small part of sewage which he and his brother had started on a smaller scale on a farm near Alton and had towed them to St. Louis for sale. Wilson says that he was surprised the men in the act of towing the logs, but that they dodged him and left the charmed and alone, could do nothing.

Steamfitter Is Killed.

Chris Lange, a steamfitter, was killed and Frederick Diemond, an assistant, was injured in Belleville. They were fatally injured by the burning of the boiler in the Lange building at Chicago. William Holmes and Rob Kinney were also injured, but by escaping steam, but will recover. Rob, Kinney, who crawled to the engine and shut off the steam.

Insane Man's Estate.

The estate of Peter Meyer has been appraised at $3,000. Meyer is the insane Meyer of Carlyle, has been appraised at $3,000. Meyer is the insane man of Aviso, where he had been confined for twenty-five years.

Capitol Escaped Prisoner.

Charles Burgess, an escaped convict from the Chester penitentiary Wednesday, was captured in Springfield by Sheriff Murgatroyd and returned to the penitentiary. Guy Crite Selman and Edgar Franklin.

Do Away with Hot Lunch.

The school board of the Alton public schools have ordered hole up agreement not to serve hot lunches for their patrons hereafter under heavy penalty.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Wednesday night will be remembered as the forty-ninth anniversary of the famous debate between Lincoln and Douglas in Quincy.

Reopens Election Case.

The state supreme court has granted Daniel L. Shaw, Democrat, a rehearing in the case in which Lewis E. Payson, Republican, was commissioned elected by the Bellne county circuit court to the office of superintendent of schools of that county.

Poison Hops and Children.

Seven boys and children in Belleville are hospital in Dorris Heights of Alton and Dr. Hall, physician, is attending them. Each one had, by mistake, poured a selection of concentrated lye.

OUTLAWED ORDERS ARE FOUND

County Auditor Discovers Unpaid Vouchers That Were Issued in 1897.

County Auditor Rhoda, of Belleville, who is at work getting the books of the county in shape for the new law, has discovered a batch of vouchers issued during the years 1896 and 1897. The orders had been issued by the board and been in the vault in the courthouse ever since. The vouchers are for small amounts and are signed by Sheriff Bauer, Coroner Beck, county clerks, both of whom have died. The outlawed warrants in preparing a list of unpaid warrants which will be sent to the outlawed by the statute of limitation, and which will be paid from the $10,000 tax levy against the county. It has been discovered that many of children claims, and, in fact, many new ones, are duplicate claims amounting to thousands of dollars, and are made payable to bearer.

Buys River Front Land.

The largest real estate deal ever made in Southern Illinois was by A. Smith purchased from trustees of the Cairo river property the entire river front. This deal closes out three-fourths of the trust property's holdings of unplatted real estate. The price is private. The purchaser of Mr. Smith amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars. The sale price paid is under $35 an acre. Mr. Smith has had the land at once and put it under cultivation.

Represents W. C. T. U.

Mrs. D. A. Sargent has been chosen to represent Bangmon county at the national convention, to be held in St. Louis. Mrs. G. J. George has been elected superintendent of the state department of temperance and labor, and Mrs. G. C. Bennett has been elected the department of law and Sabbath observance.

WILL FIGHT CLARKE HEIRS

Miss Caroline Patterson of Oak Park is preparing to make a strong legal fight against the heirs of the late millionaire, Jonathan Clarke, who have entered suit against her for the return of over $100,000 which the deceased they declare she influenced Clarke to give her. Miss Patterson says that she received the sum named from Clarke while employed as his secret

tary. Miss Patterson acknowledges the possession of considerable property, but declares that it was honestly left her by Clarke.

Damages for University.

The board appointed to arbitrate the differences between the James Millikin university and the Decatur conference who condemned the latter's property at Decatur, allows the university $1,500 for damages to the building caused by a leaking roof.

Takes Place of Husband.

Mrs. Mary Hall, widow of the late Rev. D. D. Hall, Mrs. Hall has been delivered to the Illinois Central railroad company route out of Upper Alton, of which he has charge.

Chokes Items from over the state, specially selected for our readers

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