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THE ONLY REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER AND THE BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN CARROLL COUNTY.

AMERICAN SENTINEL.

JOB WORK OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS BETTER AND CHEAPER THAN ELSEWHERE. —o— ESTIMATES FURNISHED.

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 30, 1906. VOL. 75--NO. 48.

TO THE PUBLIC.

In view of the many inquiries that have been most naturally made during the past week, it becomes our duty to make a frank statement to the public.

Because of the fact that a number of persons are interested in the AMERICAN SENTINEL and job printing office; for the protection of all these interests the undersigned were by the Circuit Court for Carroll County, sitting as a Court of Equity, appointed Receivers, and will continue the publication of the AMERICAN SENTINEL and all the work of the office, under the same business and editorial management that existed before the death of Mrs. E. J. Rippard.

So far as the interests of the public are concerned there is no change whatever in the conduct of the office, and we solicit the continued patronage of subscribers and advertisers, assuring them that they will receive as in the past, faithful and efficient service.

E. O. GRIMES, Jr.,
W. L. SEABROOK,
Receivers.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE FARMS!

In Carroll County, Md., near Westminster.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll County, in Equity, passed in cause No. 4327 Equity, wherein Clara Myers and others are plaintiffs and Georgia C. Bankert and others are defendants, the undersigned Trustees will offer at Public Sale, on the premises below described, on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 1906,

at 1 o'clock, P. M., the farm of which Josephus Bankert died seized and possessed, containing

119¼ ACRES AND 30 PERCHES,

more or less, situate about 2½ miles northwest of Westminster and about ½ mile west of the Westminster and Littlestown pike, on the Pleasant Valley road near Stonersville, adjoining the lands of Abraham Gelman, Absalom Fuhrman and David Circle.

The improvements consist of a two and a half Story Log Weatherboarded House, a fine large Bank Barn and all other necessary buildings.



There is running water in each field except one, and about 12 Acres in fine TIMBER.

Possession of the buildings will be given April 1st, 1907.

Terms of Sale:—One third of the purchase money cash on the day of sale or upon the ratification thereof by the Court; and the residue in two equal payments of one and two years from the day of sale; the credit payments to bear interest from the day of sale, and to be secured by the notes of the purchaser, with approved security; or all cash at the option of the purchaser.

LEVI H. MYERS,
AMOS A. SMELSER,
Trustees.

Ivan L. Hoff, Attorney. nov 23 4t

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters Testamentary on the estate of

HOWARD M ZILE,

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 13th day of June, 1907; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate

Given under my hand this 13th day of November, 1906.

LEANAH V. ZILE,
Executrix.

nov 6 4t

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters Testamentary on the estate of

JEREMIAH MATHIAS,

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 12th day of June, 1907; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under my hand this 12th day of November, 1906.

J. GRANT MATHIAS,
Executor.

nov 16 4t

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, in Maryland, letters of administration on the estate of

JOHN T. BARNES,

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscriber, on or before the 12th day of June, 1907; they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under my hand this 12th day of November, 1906.

CAROLINE BARNES,
Administratrix.

nov 16 4t

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

This is to give notice that the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, Md., letters of Administration on the estate of

BELINDA BUCHER,

late of Carroll county, deceased. All persons having claims against the deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated, to the subscribers, on or before the 5th day of June, 1907, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate.

Given under our hands this 5th day of November, 1906.

DAVID M. BUCHER,
MARY E. BUCHER,
Administrators.

nov 9 4t

Ready for the Holidays.

LOUIS SACHS,
SUCCESSOR TO A. C. STRASBURGER,
73 East Main St., Westminter,

I have the finest line of Liquors, Brandies, Gin, Rum and Wine ever offered in this city.

SPECIAL—XXXX Rye Whiskey the
BEST $2.00 RYE WHISKEY
ever sold in Carroll county. The goods talk for itself. No solicitors in the county.

Give me a call and be convinced. No charge for Flasks or Jugs. Full measure guaranteed. A full line of Tobacco and Cigars. Furs of all kinds bought at market prices.

LOUIS SACHS,
No. 73 EAST MAIN STREET,
WESTMINSTER, Md
my 4 06 1 y C. and P. Telephone.

WM. H. H. ZEPP,
Harness Emporium.

We invite you to call and examine our stock of Winter Goods now on display, consisting of FUR AND PLUSH ROBES, Square and Plush Blankets, in all the latest styles, Sleigh Bells, Chimes, Plumes, &c.

OUR STOCK OF
BUGGY, SURREY AND TEAM HARNESS
is complete and at prices that defy competition.

A full and complete line of
TURF AND BaseballGoods
constantly on hand at lowest prices. We have a full line of Collars, Saddles, Whips, Fly Nets, Halters, Chains Traces, Hames, Oil Soap and Dressing, in fact everything to be found in a first-class Harness Store.

We make a specialty of Hand Work. Repairing promptly done. Give us a call.

WM. H. H. ZEPP,
opposite the Forks, 113 W. Main St.,
dec 15 05 1 y Westminster, Md.

Commissioners Notice.

HEREAFTER, and until further notice the County Commissioners of Carroll county will meet at their office in Westminster, EVERY MONDAY for the transaction of business.

By order, FRANCIS L. HANN,
feb 10 05 Treasurer.

BABYLON & LIPPY CO.

The constant arrival of Holiday Goods forces us to close out many odd lots and complete lines of Fall and Winter Merchandise. With the heaviest purchases of Christmas Goods in our history daily arriving this stock reduction is an absolute necessity. The prices we name will prove a powerful aid to the end we're striving for. . . . .

CHRISTMAS FURS

Our growing fur business is not accidental, nor can it be attributed to "Luck." It is merely best assortment, better qualities, and lower prices.

Now is the time to make your purchase—new consignment just arrived.

TAILORMADE SUITS AND COATS

Thanksgiving over and the flurries of December facing you, most assuredly now is the time to buy.

Never before in the annals of Westminster's Coat, Suit and Fur selling has anything been produced to compare with the beauty of workmanship, finish and style of these types of the winter fashion ideals. All we ask is comparison—price and quality will do the rest.

UMBRELLAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Nothing is to be gained by waiting. The Christmas Umbrellas are here in profusion and they are unusually handsome. ASK TO SEE THEM.

Ladies' Fleeced Hosiery---A Rare Chance

Special purchase of Ladies' Black Fleeced Hose enables us to offer you an excellent article, just the thing for holiday gifts, at 12½c pair, worth much more.

Christmas Handkerchiefs

The superb Christmas stock of Handkerchiefs is ready in its freshest fullness. Its easy to lay away handkerchiefs and its pleasant to get through early with the holiday buying.

To make a long story short the easiest place to do your Christmas Shopping is at BABYLON AND LIPPY CO.

Holiday Clothing, Gloves, Etc.

There are some things in this department you will need before Xmas. We have made special purchases to meet the demand and tastes of everybody, in Clothing and Overcoats, Shoes of every kind, Hats of various shapes and colors, Neckwear to suit the most fastidious, Shirts to suit everybody, Cardigan Jackets, and Rubbers of every description.

OUR STORES OPEN EVERY NIGHT FROM NOW UNTIL CHRISTMAS

Save Money by Dealing With **Babylon & Lippy Co.** Westminster, Maryland.

5

WATCH THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK FOR LOW PRICES ON

Christmas Groceries, FRUITS, CANDIES, NUTS.

WILLIAM N. KEEFER,

88 and 92 East Main Street, Westminster. Both Phones. Free Delivery.



You Can Save Money On OVERCOATS and SUITS

AT BIG CLOTHING STORE OF

SHARRER & GORSUCH, Westminster.

The time to buy one of our 500 Overcoats. Our $7, $8 and $9 long full back Oxford and Black Overcoats are the kind others ask $10 and $12 for. See our elegant Overcoats, $12 to $20. They are perfection in style and fit. Boys' stylish nobby Overcoats $2 00 to $5.00. If you want an Overcoat, no matter what size, price or kind, you can get better and save money here.

YOU CAN'T MATCH OUR MEN'S and BOYS' SUITS, $5.00 TO $18.00.

A great variety of handsome patterns. Stronse Bros. Suits are finest Ready Made Suits in the world. See our special black Suits at $10 and $12.

Knee Pants Suits $1.75 to $5.00. Mothers, if you are wise you will buy Boys' Suits here.

STYLISH SUITINGS TO ORDER,

made and cut in fashion's latest fads, $15 to $25.

Save money buying our winter Underwear, 25c to $1.50.

Cardigan Jackets, 60c to $3.50.

Sweaters 50c to $2.50.

Always getting the new ideas in Neckwear and Collars.

Still selling best Cord Pants for men and boys.

Lynch & Steele,

DEALERS IN

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

Corner Green and Liberty Sts., WESTMINSTER, MD.

The Sharpless Tubular Cream Separator. Scientific Feed Grinders, International Gas and Gasoline Engines, International Manure Spreaders, Brown Farm Wagons, Frick Engines, Separators and Saw Mills, Oliver, Wiard and Vulcan Plows. Tornado Feed Cutters.

C. and P. Phone. dec 23 06

DAVID E. WALSH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY.
OFFICE—175 East Main Street, Westminster.
Prompt attention given to all business entrusted to me. may 25 tf

JOB Printing of all kinds done promptly at this Office

CHARLES E. FINK,
Attorney at Law
And Solicitor in Chancery
Office—Court Street, Westminster.
All business promptly attended to.
ju 12 1f

John E. Eckenrode. Chas. E. Eckenrode

JNO. E. ECKENRODE & SON,

Manufacturers and Dealers in
BUGGIES, SURREYS, STANHOPES, RUNABOUTS, DAYTONS, TRAPS, STICK WAGONS, DELIVERY WAGONS, DEPOT WAGONS and all kinds of Vehicles.

NEW SHOPS, new tools and better facilities for quick and good work. Special attention given to repairing in all its branches.

We have a new Rubber Tire Machine, and can put on rubber tires at a very short notice at our factory. We put on the celebrated Kelly, Goodyear and Diamond, all high grade tires. All orders promptly filled and work of every kind warranted.

We have on hand a complete stock of HARNESS and WHIPS of all kinds, for light and heavy driving, at prices that defy competition. Come and see our stock of Vehicles and Harness before purchasing. We can save you money.

JNO. E. ECKENRODE & SON,
Cor. Liberty and George Sts.,
may 13 04 Westminster Md.

JOSEPH L. MATHIAS,

SUCCESSOR TO JOHN BEAVER,
EAST MAIN ST., WESTMINSTER,
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
MARBLE and GRANITE WORK.

Special Attention to CEMETERY WORK.



GIVE ME A CALL AND LEARN MY PRICES.
ap 13 6m JOSEPH L. MATHIAS.

Are You Coming In

TO SEE THE
Finest and Best Selected
Stock of Goods
Suitable for
CHRISTMAS GIFTS,
NOW ON EXHIBITION.

Yours respectfully,

JAMES H. CASSELL,
Jeweler and Optician, East Main Street,
Md. Telephone. Westminster.
jy 5

DR. A. D. MANSFIELD,
OCULIST—EVERY MONDAY.
No. 80 East Main Street,
Westminster, Md.
Diseases of Eye and Ear, and Examination of Eyes for Glasses. feb 10 05 tf

IVAN L. HOFF,
Attorney at Law.
ENGLISH and GERMAN SPOKEN.

READY FOR CHRISTMAS

With a FULL LINE of FINE CONFECTIONERY, WHOLESOME GROCERIES, and NEW FRUITS:

RAISINS,	PEACHES,
CURRANTS,	PRUNES,
CITRON,	APRICOTS,
FIGS,	and DATES.

We do NOT handle Ice House Fruits. All Fruits Guaranteed to be NEW or Money Back, at Prices to Suit All, at the Reliable Merchant,

GEO. R. GRUMBINE,
AT FORKS OF ROAD.

Look Pleasant AND GET YOUR Christmas Photos at MITCHELL'S ART GALLERY.

SIX LITTLE STUDENT PHOTOS $1.00
SIX PICTURES OF SELF ON POSTAL 50c.

SPECIAL PRICES ON ALL WORK UNTIL JANUARY 1st, 1907.

J. D. MITCHELL, over Bowers' Store, Westminster, Md.
DON'T MIND THE WEATHER. feb 19 04 1y

C. E. NUSBAUM & CO.

DRESS GOODS.

We have greatly enlarged our Dress Goods Department and have filled it with the season's newest and prettiest goods. We cannot tell you about them here but urge you to come see them. Broadcloths, Panamas, Cravanette, Batiste, Serges and Brillantines. A splendid line of Dress Novelties at 50c yard.

SHOES. SHOES.

See us before buying Fall and Winter Shoes. We sell Shoes that give good wear. Shoe that are made of leather and not shoddy. "Queen Quality" Shoes for women $3.00, $3.50, $4 00
Men's heavy Shoes $1 85, $2.25 and $2.75.
Children's, Misses' and little Girls' Shoes at 85c, $1.00, $1.25, that will please you.

UNDERWEAR for the Whole Family.

Ladies' heavy fleeced, Rib Vests and Pants 25c. Misses' and Children's fleeced Shirts and Pants 10c to 25c. Boys' heavy fleeced lined Shirts and Drawers 25c. Men's heavy fleeced Shirts and Drawers 39c. Much heavier fleeced Shirts and Drawers 50c.

C. E. NUSBAUM & CO., Popular Cash Store,
my 26 1y 15 New Windsor, Md.

SULLIVAN'S NEW STORE.

WATCH THIS ADVERTISEMENT FOR PRICES.

BEST GRANULATED SUGAR 5 CENTS A POUND.

35c Syrup 25c gallon.
12c Pie Peaches 10c.
12c New Lard 10c.
75c Gold Metal Flour 70c sack.
75c Pillsbury Best Flour 68c sack.
40c Economy Flour 35c sack.
6c Ginger Snaps 4½c.
6c Water Crackers 4½c lb.
New Hominy, Cornmeal and Buckwheat.
Best 60c Chocolates 40c lb.
25c Butcher Pepper 20c lb.
50c Stock Food 45c.
20c Coffee 18c lb.
18c Coffee 15c lb.
10c Fodder Yarn 8½c lb.
5c box 1776 4c.
Nine o'clock Washing Tea 3½c pack.
New Rasins, Currants and Citron.

SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1906.

Any one presenting this advertisement at my store to-day can purchase Franklin's Best Granulated Sugar at 4½c lb.

I also carry a full line of Feeds, such as Bran, Shorts, Corn Chop, Screenings, Cracked Corn, Oats, Ear Corn, old and new; Shelled Corn, Baled Hay and Straw.

All the leading brands of Horse, Cattle, Hog, Chicken and Pigeon Powders.

A full line of Pigeon Foods, such as Caffir Corn, Hemp Seed, Millet Seed, Grit, Pulverized Charcoal, Oyster Shells, Beef Meal.

MILTON A. SULLIVAN,
90 WEST MAIN STREET, WESTMINSTER, Md.
jan 6 06 8 Free Delivery. C. & P. and Maryland Phones.
(PLEASE DON'T IMITATE.)

THE DARK HOUSE.

Midnight, and down the silent street
Only the faithful watchman's feet
Shuffling along his lonely beat.

House after house he passes, all
Alike—black window and black wall—
Wrapt in the shadow woven pall.

At last—one window and a light,
And persons moving left and right
The weary watchman sees tonight.

But of the many houses none
Is dark as this wherein lies one
For whom the Day of Life is done
—Frank D. Sherman in N. Y. Sun.

Wreck of the Express.

(From the Delineator.)

The young woman in black had made three trips, a week apart, between Denver and Carbonate, or rather between Denver and Carbonate, or rather between Denver and the 'Mary Ellen' mine, before the men on the Mountain Division began to ask one another who she was. Then it transpired that nobody knew, and the ugly whisper was born.

I should have begun by saying that this happened in the reign of General Auditor Cairns, when the passenger trains of the C. & G. R. were 'worked' periodically by detectives, and every man was fighting for his own hand.

The ugly whisper was not as unreasonable as it might appear. Where spotters in breeches had failed Auditor Cairns had not scrupled to employ spotters in petticoats. There were certain advantages: the women were not above setting Delilah traps for a soft-hearted conductor; and they ran less risk. In those days the West was as summary as it was chivalrous. A man spotter spotted was a man beaten within an inch of his life and thrown from the train. But it is not of record that Sampson struck Delilah or otherwise maltreated her.

It was a woman who cost Pat McManus his job on the night express. She dug a pit and he fell into it; but let him tell his own story, some half-dozen of us lounging in the conductors' locker-room as listeners.

'Ye, see, 'twas this way. I'd been t'rough for me tickets wance, and I'd missed her—or she said I had. 'Twas the same old story; she'd lost her pocketbook and the ticket in ut. Wouldn't I, for the love av Hiven and all the saints, carry her on to Carbonate and take me pay twice over whin she got there? All this, mind ye, while she'd be dabbin' her purty eyes wid her handkerchief and takin' on like a paid mourner at a wake.'

'And you were fool enough to carry her,' interrupted Harding the youngest passenger man on the division.

'What else could I do?' growled McManus. 'By the time she'd given me the long and short av ut, we were in the canyon, wid Moriarty givin' the 215 every pound av steam she carried. I lave it to the lot of yez if there's a dacint place to put a woman off from that on to the camp.'

'Knowing what we all know, I should have put her off in the middle of the Humboldt Desert,' was Harding's comment.

McManus scoffed openly. Clarence, me b'y; I think I see ye doing ut. You mark my word; yez'll be the next wan to go; the more, be token, if it's the little girl in black that tries to work ye. She's wan av them.'

'She is not,' said Harding, definitely. She travels on her own business, and she minds it strictly. Moreover, she never goes through; she always stops at the 'Mary Ellen,' and gets on there.'

'That's probably part of her 'blind',' said one of the listeners. 'The more business she seems to have, the less likely she is to be watched.'

'O.d man Targis, affectionately known as the Good Gray Prophet of the Ozarks, took his uniform from its locker.

'I hain't seen none o' her credentials,' he remarked, in his slow Missouri drawl. 'But, business or no business, if she gets onto my train without cash 'r a ticket, she's goin to have a mighty good chance to walk.'

Harding rose and struggled into his overcoat. He was a handsome young fellow; black-eyed, black-haired, black-moustached; the best looking as well as the youngest man on the mountain run. Unlike most of us who had grown up in the operating department, he had a fiduciary reputation to lose. He had been a bonded money-handler in the local treasurer's office, and had transferred to the train service because the indoor work did not agree with him.

'You are all wrong,' he asserted. 'I've had her twice on my run, and I've watched her pretty closely. She is a lady.' With which summing-up of the matter he left us.

Targis felt in his pocket for a cigar, found one and lighted it. 'I wouldn't give more 'n half a million dollars fer Clarence's job if she happens to tackle him,' he drawled. 'I believe he's just about the spick-and-span young fellow she's laying for. What say?'

It was a chilly December night, a week after McManus's head went into Auditor Cairn's basket, that Harding's turn came.

It began when he was on his way to the depot to take his train. He had just passed the corner of Larimer street, and a glance aside through the plate glass of a ticket broker's window pulled him up short. She was there, the little lady in black, and she was evidently buying a ticket from the broker.

Now, to a man under pay from a railway company, everything connected with the business of 'ticket scalping' is a thing to suspect. So Harding stayed to watch the transaction to its close. Moreover, when the young woman came out and turned down Seventh street, he dropped behind and held her in view all the way to Union Depot.

He lost her at the grand portal, being obliged to run up stairs to don his uniform. But a little later, when he was taking his lantern from Coghlan at the steps of the chair-car, the trace turned up again.

'She's here,' whispered the brakeman. 'Came up a minute ago and asked for you. I told her you'd be along pretty quick, and put her aboard. Say! but that baby grip o' hers is heavier'n lead! D'you s'pose she carries hardware samples?'

Harding ignored the gossip and spoke to the principal fact.

'She asked for me, you say?'

'For the conductor; guess she didn't know 'twas you.'

Harding would have gone to her at once, but train-starting moments are busy ones for the conductor, and he forgot her till he came to her in the regular order of things—which was in his ticket-collecting round ten miles out of Denver.

The chair-car was well-filled, but the chair next to hers was empty save for the small Gladstone handbag which she always carried. Also, there was a vacant seat just behind her; or rather a vacant chair.

When she looked up, Harding had a recurrence of the pleasant little thrill that beauty of a certain sort—her sort—always gave him. She figured in his thoughts of her as a woman of the trusting type; guileless herself, and so unsuspecting of guile in others. But the beauty was undeniable, too; great pupilled gray eyes, with a shadow of sorrow, present or past, in them; lips too pale to be passionate, and yet, with a promise of quick sensibility in their curves; a sweet, winsome face that appealed instantly to the persuadable part of a man.

But just now her look was a little anxious. 'I'm glad you have come,' she said. 'I wanted to see you before the train started.'

Harding nodded. 'I know; the brakeman told me. I'm sorrow I was too busy to look you up just then. Is it anything I can do now?'

'It was about my ticket,' she went on, opening her chatelaine.

'The agent said I would better speak to you before I—before the train started.'

He looked the ticket over with a muttered malediction broad enough to include the entire 'scalping' fraternity. It was the unused portion of a round-trip tourist ticket from the East; non-transferable, iron-clad contract; good for passage from Denver to Carbonate and return for the original purchaser, and utterly worthless to any one else.

'I shall have to see you later about this,' he said, handing the ticket back to her.

'O!' she exclaimed. 'I hope there there is nothing wrong?'

He said 'No,' meaning only that his thought of her did not admit the possibility of wrong-doing on her part, and went on through the rest of the train.

When hefound time to return to her the canyon gateway was passed, and Moriarty was spending the 215 at her storm-fullest pace up the black gorge. The seat beside the young woman was still empty, but the one directly behind her was occupied now now by a man in rough working clothes—a man whose beard began close up under his eyes, and flowed in a hay-colored cascade to the third button of his vest.

'Ticket!' said Harding, explosively. Having an unpleasant thing to say to the young woman in the seat ahead, he would have been glad of a pretext to efface a possible listener.

The man fumbled in his pocket and produced a conductor's check. 'You got me in the smoker,' he said.

'What are you doing back here? This is the ladies car,' snapped Harding.

The man's smile showed his teeth. 'Come off' he growled. 'I've paid my fare' and I know my rights, See?'

Harding gave it up, having no right to drive the man from a chair-car which was advertised far and wide as 'free,' and went to sit down beside the young woman with the scalped ticket.

She moved her hand-bag to make room for him, and he remembered Coghlan's remark about the weight of it, when he noticed that she took both her hands to it. Also, he had a curious impression that it gave forth the unmistakable chink of coin when she put it on the floor at her feet.

But his business was with the ticket, which she gave him again, and he began abruptly in the midst of things.

'You bought this at a broker's office near the corner of Seventeenth and Larimer streets. What did you pay for it?'

She looked her surprise at his knowledge of the fact.

'I paid twenty dollars for it.'

'You know that was less than the regular fare?'

'Oh, yes; I have been up several times, and have always had to pay thirty dollars. But the agent said there was a new arrangement in effect; that I was to pay him twenty dollars and give you five more—which would make the round trip cost me twenty-five dollars instead of thirty,' And she took five silver dollars from the diminutive chatelaine and proffered them to him.

If Harding had been alone he would have set forth his opinion of the broken in terms not to be found in any lexicon of polite speech. Yet he could scarcely forbear a smile at the ingenious effrontery of the fraud.

The man had taken a certain risk based upon the chance that a five dollar bribe, tendered in all innocence by a sweet faced young woman would make him accept the scalped ticket without going too deeply into the matter of original ownership.

The thing could be done; was done now and then by conductors careless or unscrupulous; and no one, not even Auditor Cairns, was the wiser. It was merely a question of identity. If he chose to assume that the young woman was the original purchaser of the ticket * * * He was tempted as a man is tempted once or twice in a lifetime. The name signed to the iron-clad contract was fairly illegible—brokers will not buy fragmentary tickets on which the signatures are too well written.

It was an anxious question of hers that saved him. 'Is there anything wrong?' she asked. She was still offering him the five silver coins.

'I suppose there is no possibility that you were the person who first purchased this ticket in Chicago and signed it there?' he said.

'Of course not. I bought it a little while ago in an office in Denver, as you know.'

'Then it's all wrong. The man who sold this ticket to you is not a regular agent of the company, and he swindled you. I shall have to collect fare.'

'You mean that I shall have to pay over again? But—but I don't understand,' she protested; and he knew there were tears in the gray eyes, because he heard them in her voice.

He explained as her brother might, It would be only a temporary loss. He would give her a receipt for the cash fare paid, and she could take this and the ticket back to the brokers and demand her money. The man would refund the twenty dollars; nay, Harding went so far as to say that he would go with her on her return to Denver and see that exact justice was done.

She broke in upon the explanation with an impassioned little gesture of despair, real or so faultlessly simulated as to be calculated to deceive the very elect.

'Yes, yes; I understand now; and you are very, very kind. But I can't pay my fare. This is all the money I have!' She had added two more silver dollars to the five in her palm.

Harding viewed the pile of coin with narrowing eyes, head and heart fiercely at war one with the other. On the face of it the trouble was one into which any innocent person might have fallen, and there was every apparent reason to believe in the young woman's sincerity. But, on the other hand, the trap, if it were a trap, was one which only the subtlest of women detectives could have baited. So, while Heart was saying: Lend her the differance and trust her, Head was protesting: Don't be a fool! it's the same old play, only with a little more skillful actress in the title role. She is working you. Will you sell your birthright for a mess of pottage?

In the end it was Heart that had the casting vote, though Head was to blame. At the scale-tipping instant he permitted himself to glance into the tear-brightened eyes, and his fate was sealed.

'I'll help you out,' he said, taking five of the seven coins. 'My report is supposed to go in on Number Four tomorrow from Carbonate. But I'll hold it over, and you can pay me the remainder tomorrow evening on your return; or we can wait till you reach Denver, if that will be more convenient.'

'But won't that get you into trouble?'

The question was innocent enough, but somehow it stirred a curious after-thrill of suspicion in him. None the less, he would not give the doubt standing room.

'I sha'n't let it get me into trouble,' he said; and so the matter was settled.

She got off the next morning at the Mary Ellen mine, as usual. There

CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE.