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REACH SETTLEMENT

Steel and Coal Companies Patch Up a Truce For Two Years.

AN ALL NIGHT CONFERENCE

Steel Company to Get Coal at a New Figure and Courts to Decide Validity of Old Contract—Large Part of Credit of Settlement Due to Hon. W. S. Fielding Who Worked Untriflingly.

Montreal, Dec. 8.—After an all-night session, the Dominion Coal and Steel Companies patched up their now famous dispute. It is not a final settlement; that has to be determined in the courts; but a two years' agreement has been entered into by which the Steel Company pays the Coal Company \$1.50 additional per ton, making the price about \$2.75 instead of \$1.24, as formerly.

The Steel people will receive the grades of coal they desire at the new prices. In the meantime a friendly suit, if there be such, will be indulged in by the two companies to have the courts decide what damage, if any, the Coal Company shall pay for its refusal to allow the Steel people to pick their coal. If the court decides in favor of the Coal interests, then a new contract at the increased prices will be made at the end of the two years.

Mr. Plummer is emphatic in his statements that the present arrangement is binding for two years only. A very large part of the credit of settling the dispute must be given to Hon. W. S. Fielding, who came down from Ottawa Thursday and practically spent all day and night in conferring with the two boards and bringing them to terms. Some days ago a settlement seemed as far away as ever, but the friendly offices of Mr. Fielding have worked wonders. General satisfaction is expressed here among all classes of people at the long-drawn-out dispute, and warm words of praise are given to Mr. Fielding for his splendid success.

GERMANY AND MOROCCO.

Bill Ratifying Algeiras Convention Passes Reichstag.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—The Reichstag yesterday discussed the Algeiras convention. Foreign Minister Tschirsky explained Germany's position throughout the Moroccan conference. In the meanwhile, the secretary added, preparatory steps had been taken for the enforcement of the Algeiras convention.

In reply to a question, he said the Franco-Spanish note contained a declaration that the measures of the two powers were only designed to have a quieting effect upon the Moroccan population. The same note had been handed to all the powers. Germany, the secretary continued, had no occasion to oppose the joint action of France and Spain.

Finally the bill ratifying the Algeiras convention passed its first and second reading.

FEARS FOR LAKE STEAMERS.

Sarnia Crew, Lost Sight of in a Storm, is Missing.

Detroit, Dec. 8.—Grave fears are entertained regarding the steamer Lake Michigan and the wooden steamer Sidney C. McLouth.

The Lake Michigan, with a crew of 12, mostly from Sarnia, Ont., has not been reported since she cast away the barge Wawanosh, in Thursday's storm, the barge being wrecked later near Oscoda.

The McLouth, formerly known as the Rochester, of the Union Line, carries a crew of 20 men, most of whom reside at Marine City, Mich.

The McLouth left Fort William Monday night for Buffalo. Capt. J. M. Shackett commands the McLouth and Capt. Charles Millard is master and part owner of the Lake Michigan.

BOLOMEN ATTACK AND KILL.

U. S. Detachment Loses Five Killed and Ten Wounded in Philippines.

Manila, Dec. 8.—Later reports of the fighting in the Island of Leyte, Dec. 5, show that Capt. Samuel V. Ham, with a detachment of Company L of the 8th Infantry and a force of constabulary under Lieut. Ralph P. Yates, Jr., were attacked by 60 bolomen near La Paz on the Taragona trail.

The Pulajanes, who had a few guns, fired a volley, and then made a rush upon the American force with their bolos. Five Americans were killed and ten were wounded. The enemy lost twenty killed. A detachment has started in pursuit of the insurgents.

Mavoc in Rochester.

Rochester, N.Y., Dec. 7.—A wind, blowing at 45 miles an hour, struck Rochester at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Miss Anna Male, 67 years of age, was killed by the falling of a chimney, which crashed through the kitchen of her home. The East Main street car barn was blown down, and the tall iron chimney of the American Union Laundry also suffered the same fate.

Admits Forgery.

London, Dec. 8.—At the police court yesterday morning, Frederick Ryckman, the young man who was arrested Thursday on a charge of forgery, pleaded guilty to four charges of forging cheques, and was remanded until Saturday, Dec. 15, for sentence.

Ryckman is married, 27 years of age, and came here with his wife from Hamilton to reside about three weeks ago.

Pope's Physician Dies.

Rome, Dec. 8.—Dr. Laponni, physician to the Pope, died at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. He had been seriously ill for some time of cancer of the stomach, and pneumonia setting in, he could not in his weakened condition withstand the ravages.

It is reported that before losing consciousness Dr. Laponni, referring to the Pope, said: "He has a strong constitution and, having studied him carefully, I think he will live longer than Leo XIII."

A Christmas Reconciliation

How Santa Claus Brought Peace to Two Troubled Old Hearts.

By JOANNA SINGLE.

THEY were both sixty, and they both had gray hair, and their six children were all happily married and prosperous, but living at long distances from their parents. There was money enough for both, and both were in good health. But they were both wretched. For this state of affairs John Bowen blamed his wife and Mary Bowen blamed her husband. It had all come about since they sold the farm, three years ago, when and moved to Colorado with his pretty wife, Alice. Then the old people had moved to town and had begun to quarrel. Nobody, not they themselves, knew just how it had begun, and only Mary, the eldest daughter, had suspected that anything was wrong. She had said nothing, considering silence the better part, until something really had to be done.

At last and suddenly things had come to a head. The pastor of the little church to which they belonged had noticed that there was an un-Christian coolness between husband and wife. They no longer sat side by side, some-



"JOHN," SHE SAID, "SEE IS OVER."

times one went home without the other, the offerings were no longer one, but separate gifts, and they disagreed in class meeting upon matters of doctrine. The pastor "labored" with them because of their example to younger married couples.

This enraged John, who told him that neither of them would come to church again and asked for their letters. When, however, the pastor was gone he turned fiercely on his wife. He said it was her behavior that had brought notice upon them, and she said that if he was ugly at home she, for her part, was not a hypocrite and would not pretend abroad that all was right between them.

Then each threatened to leave the other, and finally they talked of dividing the property. At this they quarreled more fiercely than ever, not from selfishness, for each wanted the other to have the larger share. On this John Bowen insisted until some devil prompted Mary to say his generosity was only for the purpose of putting her in the wrong by making her seem mercenary. Then they saw a lawyer, a kindly man, who failed to reconcile their differences, and from trying to divide the property each got more and more angry until finally Mary had the papers drawn up for a divorce, and John filed a cross claim. Neither would have the papers served just then. There were things to be attended to, and then the children must be told.

Somehow neither one of them could bear to tell the children, and more than once they were on the verge of making up. So it happened that it was almost Christmas time, and still nothing was done about it. However, the pastor finally wrote to their daughter Mary, asking her if she could not reconcile her parents to each other, and she wrote to her brothers and sisters. The three of them who could meet and talked it over and concluded to adopt a plan evolved by Mary, who probably understood the root of the trouble better than the others.

This daughter, her mother's namesake, had three fine children. Paul had four, and Elizabeth had two, one too small to leave its mother.

At the little home of the old people all was gloom. The old man was sitting and destroying old papers, and his wife was mending and arranging and cleaning her already arranged house. She was bound to be convinced that no one would properly look after his fiancée and his rheumatism when she had gone to her daughters'. This she had fully purposed to do, for she would not put him out of his own house. He was equally obstinate about leaving it to her.

Two days before Christmas Mary began to cook, with all her experienced skill, pumpkin and apple and mince and squash pies, fruit cake and layer cake and plum pudding. She planned for turkey and for chicken pie, and her husband eyed her in gloomy retrospection of the glad old times, growing out to her that she seemed to be preparing for an army, and she flash-

ed out that this wasn't the time to be stingy and perhaps there would be some poor to feed—there always had been so far.

Then came the 24th day of December, a heavy snowstorm and much embarrassment for the old couple. Each had secretly sent all the children presents and a letter, neither mentioning the other, and the lawyer had called on them and told them that it was time to drop the divorce business and make up or push it and have it over with. They almost drove him from the house, and he laughed as he went down the street.

About noon John came in, gruff and shy, and put a great armful of holly on the white kitchen table. She looked at him till he explained.

"May Carr give it to me. They had too much at the church, and she give me no chance to say I didn't want it—you know Mary's way. She said the Christmas tree was the biggest the church ever had and there were more children needing things. She asked if you had anything pretty or useful you didn't want, and I said I would ask you."

They had missed the church woefully and had always helped out with everything. They had always been cheerful and charitable. This appeal touched them both.

Mary rummaged about and sent an offering that rejoiced the hearts of those who were trimming the tree. John took it to the church, and everybody shook hands with him and in the general gladness seemed to have forgotten that anything was wrong.

About 4, while Mary was alone resting after putting up all the holly, a telegram came for John. She did not know where he was, and she suffered the usual agony of simple people unaccustomed to receiving telegrams. She dared not open it and imagined the death and burial of all her children and grandchildren, one after the other.

While she was in this frame of mind another message came, and the boy had scarcely gone when a third arrived. Then she sent a neighbor's boy for her husband and received him almost fainting. He was as frightened as she, but the first read: "Meet 6 o'clock train tonight. Mary." The second said: "Meet 6 o'clock train tonight. Paul." The third bade him meet the 6 o'clock train and was signed "Elizabeth." While they stood staring at each other a boy brought another. This was different.

"Meet 8 o'clock train from west for little Christina. Alice died suddenly yesterday. Mother, give her a home till I can get to you. Letter later." It was 5 then. They stood staring a moment, and then Mary fell to piling wood on the fire and spoke briefly to John.

"Father, you'll have to hurry to get to that train." He went out to the barn and hitched the team to the double cutter. When he came back he lifted down to their grandmother's arms her daughter Mary's three children, three of Paul's and one of Elizabeth's. They were all laughing and shouting and each was ticketed "Merry Christmas. I am a gift to grandpa and grandma." They were barely fed and warmed when John went to the later train and returned with the motherless three-year-old Christina in his arms. She had been put in the conductor's care and was sound asleep, with tears on her cheeks and her yellow curls tousled, on her grandfather's shoulder. Her grandmother reached up for her.

"John," she said, "she is ours. We must keep things together for the children. John, I'm awfully ashamed of how hard I've been, and I ain't ashamed to say so. Will you forgive me?" He stooped suddenly and kissed her as he put the child in her arms.

"Ma," he said, "I've been an old fool, and I'm the one to blame! I'll go and straighten things at church and if you'll have me for a Christmas present all right!" And she smiled happily up at him.

BAD NEGRO WITH GUN.

Kills Two and Wounds As Many More Before He Surrenders.

Greenville, Miss., Dec. 8.—Felix Holman, a negro, shot and killed, Colina Holman, a negro, in a boarding house yesterday. Policeman Abercrombie, with B. Coffey, Wm. Vaught, and Enoch Thompson, entered the house to arrest Holman. The negro had two pistols and fired upon the arresting party.

The first shot passed through Thompson's breast, killing him. Another shot struck Coffey in the body. He may die. Abercrombie's right thigh was shattered by a bullet. After emptying his pistols, the negro fled and was fired upon by policemen and citizens. He finally was driven into a washhouse and after a threat to burn him out he surrendered and was lodged in jail. Holman was shot in the arm.

Elder Fined \$10 and Costs.

St. Thomas, Dec. 8.—The case of assault at the Mapleton Church last Monday night was ventilated yesterday before Magistrate Hunt and Day. W. G. Charlton, the defendant, is an elder of the Church of the Disciples and occasionally preaches. W. K. Cameron appeared for the prosecution, and T. W. Crothers for the defendant.

Clinton W. Smith swore that Charlton without any provocation struck him, giving him a black eye and knocking him out of his knees, then rushed him out of the church.

All the men of the St. Thomas party gave similar testimony, and one of the young ladies, Miss Clara Lumley, gave evidence on the same lines.

The evidence of the defence was that the St. Thomas young people began talking and preventing the carrying out of the program, and that he was justified in what he did.

Elder Charlton was fined \$10 and costs, the expense to Mr. Charlton being \$20.65.

Prepare For Attack.

Meilla, Morocco, Dec. 8.—A detachment of the Sultan's troops has crossed the Moulouya River, and native runners report that the pretender's followers are preparing to attack the Sheriff's force. The result of the battle is anxiously awaited.

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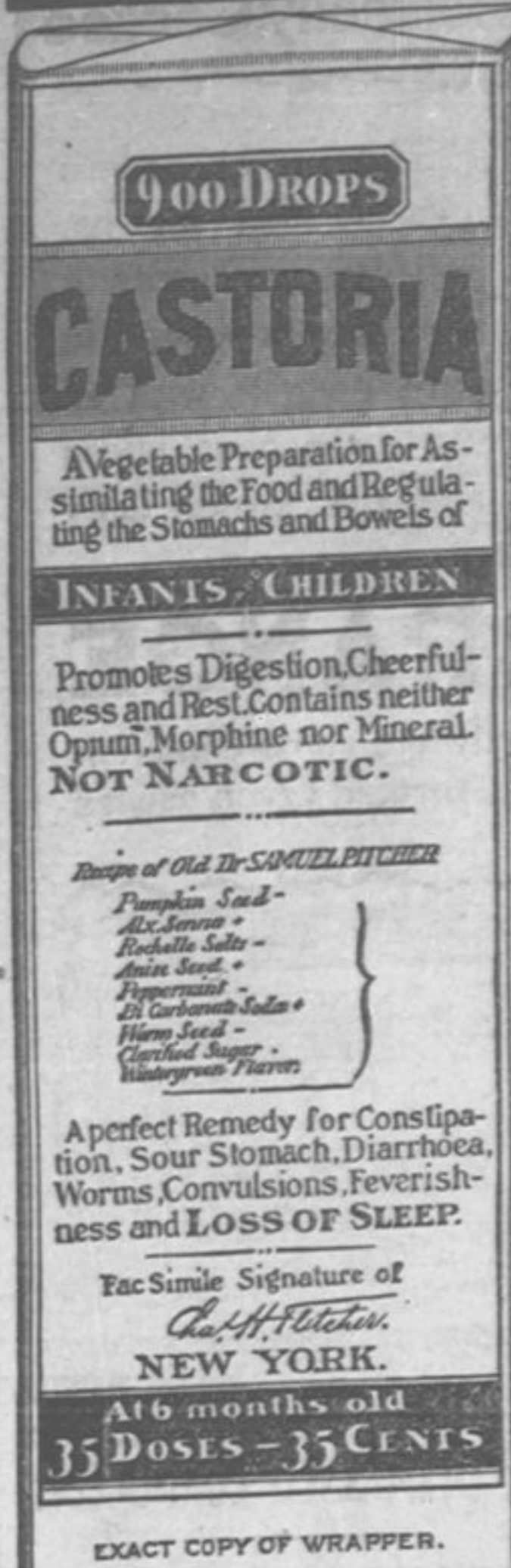
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