STORY OF THE PLAINS BY E. HOUGH, AUTHOR OF THE STORY OF THE COWBOY Copprighted, 1908. by D. Appleton & Company, New York

CHAPTER XXIV-Continued. "Ned," said the tall Irishman, rising and laying a hand upon his shoulder, "don't ye belave I'll be lavin' ye. I've

seen the worrld, an' I must see it again, but wance in a while I'll be comin' around here to see the best man's country on the globe, an' to meet agin the best man I lyver knew. I'll not till why I belave it, for that I can not do, but shure I do belave it. this is the land for you. Don't be restless, but abide, an' take ye root here. For Latty, it's no odds. He's seen the worrld."

lin's face to grow still more grave, and his friend saw and suspected the real "I well know how your wishes lie. It's a noble gyuri ye've chosen, as a noble man should do. She may change her wan thing shure about a woman."

the gyurl! Make ready the house and prepare the bridal gyarments. Talk a lamb. It's Batty has studied the sex. Now wance there was a gyurlbut no: I'll not yet thrust mesilf to spake o' that. God rist her asy ivermore!"

it. That is what my own answer has been. She tells me that there was once another, who no longer livesthat no one else---"

turn. "There's no style of assault | tance. more difficult than that same," said he. "Yet she's young; she must have been very young. With all respect, it's the nature o' the race o' women to yield to the livin', breathin' man above the dead an' honored."

Battersleigh's hand was on the door knob. "The consate o' you!" he said. 'Thrue, ye're a fine boy, Ned. an' know of no conversayshun more entertainin' than yer own, but I fale that if I didn't get dhrunk like a gintleman this avenin'. I'd be violatin' me juty to me own conscience, as well as settin' at naught the thraditions o' the Rile Irish. An' so, if ye'll just excuse me, I'll say good-bye till, say, to-morrow noon."

And now there still fared on the swift, sane empire of the West. The Battersleigh's words caused Frank- rapid changes, the strivings, the accomplishments, the pretensions and the failures of the new town blended cause. "Tut, tut! me boy," he said, in the product of human progress. Each man fell into his place in the community as though appointed thereto, and the eyes of all were set forthought to-morrow. It's change is the ward. To Franklin the days and months and years went by unpunctu-Franklin shook his head mutely, but ated, his life settling gradually into Battersleigh showed only impatience the routine of an unhappy calm. He with him. "Go on with your plans, neglected too much the social side of man," said he, "an' pay no attintion to life, and rather held to his old friends than busied himself with the search for new. Battersleigh was gone, with her raysonable, an' thin try un- swiftly and mysteriously gone, though raysonable, and if she'll folly ye thin. with the promise to return and with to the ind of the earth, an' love ye like | the reiteration of his advice and his well wishes. Curly was gone-gone up the Trail into a far and mysterious country, though he, too, promised to remember Ellisville, and had given hostage for his promise. His friends "Yes," said Franklin sadly, "that is of the Halfway House were gone, for though he heard of them and knew them to be prosperous, he felt himself, by reason of Mary Ellen's decision, in propriety practically with-Battersleigh's face grew grave in drawn from their personal acquain-

Because of his level common sensé, which is the main ingredient in the success-portion, he went easily into the first councils of the community. He made more and more money, since at that time one of his position and

"The Consate o' you!"

"I had my hopes," said Franklin, 1 opportunities could hardly avoid doing sleeve-not for any woman in the concern.

"Spoken like a man," said Battersleigh, "an' if ye'll stick to that ye're follyin' too close in a campaign ag'inst uncover your forces. If ye advance, do so by rushes, an not feelin' o' the way. But tin to wan, if ye lie still under cover, she'll be sendin' out skir- | Ellen, who had sent him away forever; I know, an' so do I, an' so does ivery man that ivver saw her, for she's the sort min can't help adorin'. But, mind you, an' you go. 'Come back,' she whispers to herself, an' you don't hear it. Yet all the time she's wonderin' pfwhy you don't! '

Franklin smiled in spite of himself. "Battersleigh's Tactics and Manual of to be explained away. Strategy," he murmured. "All right, old man. I thank you just the same. "I presume I'll live, at the worst. And there's a bit in life besides what we want for ourselves, you know."

we're ready to take for oursilves!" of other fishes in the say for ye. Take what ye want, if ye'll have it. An' hearken: there's more to Ned Franklin lawyer. It's not for ye yersilf to sit longed for finer material than the diggin' in a musty desk. Ye're to man, made possible under those artifinose up. Ned, or you'll be unwittin' promise with Nature. Longing for the classifyin' yesilf with the great slave satisfying, for the noble things, he class which we lift behind not long found himself irresistibly facing toago, but which is follyin' us hard and | ward the past, and irresistibly confar. Git your nose up, fer it's Batty | vinced that in that past, as in the has been thinkin' ye've Destiny inside | swiftly marching present, there might your skin. Listen to Batty the Fool, be some lesson, not ignoble and not unand search your sowl. I'll tell ye comforting. Horrified that he could this: I've the feelin' that I'll be not rest in the way that he had chosen, hearin' of ye, in all the marrches o' the | distracted at these intangible desires, worrld. Don't disappoint me, Ned, he doubted at times his perfect sanity; for the ould man has belaved in ye- | for though it seemed there was within more than ye've belaved in yersilf. As | him the impulse to teach and to create, to the gyurl-bah!-go marry some day, av ye've nothin' more importhant on yer hands.

"But, me dear boy, spakin' o' importhant things, I ralely must be goin' now. I've certain importhant preparations that are essintial before I get dhrunk this avenin'---"

"O Battersleigh, do be sensible," said Franklin, "and do give up this talk of getting drunk. Come over here this evening and talk with me. It's meh better 'baz getting drunk."

"but they're gone. Let it go that so. His place in the business world way. I'll not wear my heart on my was assured. He had no occasion for

prosperity sufficient; yet never did Edward Franklin lie down with the long the more like to win. Nivver chance | breath of the man content; and ever in his dreams there came the vague a woman. Parallel an' mine, but don't | beckoning of a hand still naif unseen, Haunting him with the sense of the unfulfilled, the face of Mary Ellen was ever in the shadow: of Mary mishers to see where ye are an' what of Mary Ellen, who was wasting her ye are doin'. Now, ye love the gyurl, life on a prairie ranch, with naught to inspire and none to witness the flowering of her soul.

So much for the half-morbid frame me, kape away. 'Go 'way,' she says to of mind due for the most part to the reflex of a body made sick by an irregular and irrational life. This much. too, Franklin could have established of his own philosophy. Yet this was not all, nor was the total so easily

Steadily, and with an insistence somewhat horrible, there came to Franklin's mind a feeling that this career which he saw before him would not always serve to satisfy him. Losing | comrades would eat him. I notice this "There's naught in life but what no touch of the democratic loyalty to his fellow-men, he none the less clearcried Battersleigh. "Til talk no fable ly saw himself in certain ways becoming inexorably separated from his average fellow-man. The executive even to a powerfully built man, when instinct was still as strong within him, than bein' a land agent and a petty but he felt it more creative, and he an' mope, neyther to spind your life seamy side of man's petty strifes with grow, man; ye're to grow! Git your | cial laws which marked man's comhe could not say to himself what or how was to be the form, whether mental or material, of the thing created,

> would teach. Of such travail, of such mould, have come great architects, great engineers, great writers, musicians, painters, indeed great me of affairs beings who stand by the head and shoulders above other men as leaders. The nature of such men is not always at the first assured, the imprimitive seal not always

the thing typified, the thing which he

surely set on, so that of one thus to mented to his inner self it may be mere accident which shall determine whether it is to be great artist or great artisan that is to be born again.

To Franklin, dreaming as he woke or slept, there sometimes waved s hand, there sometimes sounded Voice, as that which of old summoned the prophet in the watches of the night. Neither in his waking nor his sleeping hours could he call this spirit into materialization, however much he longed to wrestle with it finally. It remained only to haunt him vaguely, to join with the shade of Mary Ellen the Cruel to set misery on a life which he had thought happily assured.

CHAPTER XXV.

The Great Cold.

The land lay trusting and defenceless under a cynical sky, which was unthreatening but mocking. Dotting a stretch of country thirty miles on either side of the railway, and extending as far to the east and west along its line, there were scattered hundreds of homes, though often these were separated one from the other by many miles of open prairie. Most of them contained families. Men had brought hither their wives and children-little children, sometimes babes, tender, needful of warmth and care. For these stood guardian the gaunt coal chutes of the town, with the demands of a population of twenty-five hundred. to say nothing of the settlers round about, a hundred tons for a thousand families, scattered, dwelling out along breaks and coulees, and on worn hillsides, and at the ends of long, faint, of snow would softly and cruelly wipe

Yet there was no snow. There had been none the winter before. The trappers and skin-hunters said that the winter was rarely severe. The railroad men had ranged west all the winter, throats exposed and coats left at the wagons. It was a mild country, a Zantle, tender country. In this laughing sky who could see any cynicism?

One morning the sun rose with a swift bound into a cloudless field. The air was mild, dead absolutely silent and motionless. The wires along the railway alone sang loudly, as though in warning-a warning unfounded and without apparent cause. Yet the sighing in the short grass was gone. In the still air the smokes of the town rose directly upright; and answering to them faint, thin spires rose here and there far out over the prairies, all straight, unswerving, ominous, terrible. There was a great bush, a calm, a pause upon all things. The sky was blue and cloudless, but at last it could not conceal the mockery it bore upon its face, so that when men looked at it and listened to the singing of the wires they stopped, and without conscious plan hurried on, silent, to the nearest company.

Somewhere, high up in the air, an heralded, invisible, there were passing some thin inarticulate sounds, far above the tops of the tallest smoke spices, as though some Titan blew a far jest across the continent to another near the sea, who answered with a gusty laugh, sardonic grim, foreknowing. Every horse free on the range came into the coulees that morn ing, and those which were fenced in ran up and down excitedly. Men ate and smoked, and women darned, and babes played. In a thousand homes there was content with this new land, so wild at one time, but now so quickly tamed, so calm, so gentle, so thoroughly subdued.

(To be continued.)

Faithful Dogs. The faithfulness of the dog is well known, though not appreciated as it should be. Perhaps most faithful of all the species is the Eskimo dog.

We learn the following about this animal from the writings of Frederick Schwatka, who made a wonderful trip on a sledge from Hudson Bay to the Arctic Ocean. The sledges were drawn by the dogs, and he started out with sixty of them, returning with only nineteen, all the rest dying of starva-

tion en route. Says Schwatka:

"They were, through all this terrible time, perfect respecters of their human allies, and the little children used to go among them and play with them by pelting them with toy whips; yet the same dogs were stary. ing, and should one of them die, his particularly, as some sensational writers have tried to make their readers believe that the Eskimo dogs are liable to become dangerous fellows. simply hungry, and to be worse than wild beasts when ravenous. Any onslaught of Eskimo dogs is unknown among the natives where I traveled.

"It was pitiable in the extreme to see their sufferings, as they devotedly helped us along-many of them up to the very minute they had to be taken from the harness and abandoned along the road. As they dropped out along the way, we harnessed ourselves in their places to the sledge traces, and It was thus we were not compelled to leave certain parts of our load."

Perfectly True.

"He says he is in business for himself now manufacturing automobiles."

"And he claims not one of his machines has ever been known to break down on the road." "That's right; he hasn't sold any

Season for Beggars. Even beggars have their "season" in Constantinople. During the winter morths the city harbors a larger number of them than in the summer, when many migrate to the

## Illinois News

Choice items from ever specially selected for our rud

RAILROAD EMPLOYE IS KILLED | LAZY HUSBAND GETS DUCKING | HARD BLOW FOR

Man's Head is Split and His Body is Hurled 150 Feet.

Within two days after he arrived from Indianapolis, Ind., to take the position of operator in the Big Four interlocker in the Mitchell yards, near Alton, Harry Cook, aged 26, was struck by a Chicago & Alton train, his head being split and his body buried 150 feet. Cook was walking along the wagon road which crossed the railroad tracks at Mitchell, when the Wabash and the Chicago & Alton fast trans were racing toward the crossing. Cook was watching the Wabash train and apparently did not see the Chicago & Alton train. He was dead when picked up. Cook's mother, whom he had left at Indianapolis, was notified of his death. The Big Four and Chicago & Alton are installing a new interlocking system and block signal plant at Mitchell, where the new short line of the Big Four intersects the Big Four and the Chicago & Alton double tracks.

LONG AND USEFUL LIFE.

Charles Phinney, aged 93, died in Alton after a two weeks' illness. Mr. Phinney was a resident of Alton nearly seventy years and, until the beginwandering trails, which the first whirl | ning of his last illness, was actively engaged in business. He continued to direct his wholesale grocery business up to the last, notwithstanding his great age, and was said to have been the oldest active business man in Illinois. He was one of the wealthiest business man in Alton, Mr. Phinney



CHARLES PRINNEY

was born at Wanquoit, Mass., Aug. 25, 1810 and moved to Alton in 1838. His interest in public events never faltered and he was one of the leading citizens during his whole period of residence in the city. All of his children are dead. His death occurred at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. Robert M. Forbes. He was a member of the Presbyterian church in Alton from young manhood, and was one of the most regular attendants. He leaves one sister, Mrs. Sarah Sargent of

Epworth League Election.

The Epworth league of the Ashland M. E. church of Virginia has elected the following officers for the ensuing splitting kindling at Waterloo, was year: President, Eugene Clemons; vice presidents, Misses, Lizzie Not- of wood, which pierced the cychall. It tingham, Pearl Buckley, Frances is thought the injury will cause the Lockwood and Lynn Gillett; secretary, Harry Lohman, with Pearl Courtright as assistant; treasurer, Annette Rearick; organist, Georgia Combs; chorister, Mrs. Cordia Wilbum.

License Law Is Unconstitutional. Jacob Neumann of Chicago has been conducting a clothing sale at Dixon. and the Merchants' association had caused his arrest three different times for failure to supply a city license of \$250. The three cases came before the circuit court on appeal, and Judge Farrand held that the ordinance was unconstitutional. being class legislation, and Neumann was discharged.

Fireman Sues for \$20,000.

A suit for \$20,000 damages was filed in the circuit court at Alton by Frank Hinkle against the St. Clair, Madison and St. Louis belt railroad company. Hinkle was fireman on a bridge engine and was burned by the collapse of a flue in the boiler.

The coroner's jury at Carbondale has been unable to fix the blame for the disaster in the Herran mine other than that the frightful loss of life was from the dust in the mine catching fire from the explosion of only one keg

Dust Caused Herran Disaster.

Boy Uses a Club. Charles Peacock of Ewing, Mo., was struck on the head with a club by a boy with whom he had a controversy at Quincy. He is in a very precarious condition.

of powder.

Centralia's Finances.

City Treasurer Bruno Diehl of Centralia has published his annual statement, showing the financial condition of the city for the fiscal year ending April 21. The total receipts were \$66,-497.31; expenditures, \$52,046.01.

Alton Man Strikes Gold. Word received from Frank Markey. a former Alton man, is that he has made a strike of gold in the Cripple Creek district, for which he has re used \$20,000. Markey has a brother

Magistrate Justifies Brother-in-Law in | Appellate Court Decides De

Avenging the Wife. Police Magistrate Rose of Alton de-

cided that Robert Voyles was justified in giving his brother-in-law, Fred Wilhelms, a ducking in a fish pond for not supporting his wife, Voyles' sister, and for going fishing when he should have been at work. Wilhelms caused the arrest of Voyles on a warrant charging assault and battery. but as there was no evidence that Voyles did more than throw Wilhelms into the pond, the charge was dismissed. Wilhelms admitted that he I fined \$500 each for violating the law. had not been very industrious and They then appealed, alleging the recseveral times had spent his week's wages without giving anything to his young wife, and that he had been cautioned by his brother-in-law to take better cars of his family.

RESCUE WOMAN FROM A BLUFF

Man and Wife in Skiff Release Victim in Nick of Time.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Stephany rescued an old woman from a perilous position on a cliff of the Piasa bluffs above Alton. They were out in a skiff near Elsah when their attention was attracted by cries, and, on investigating they saw the woman clinging desperately to a point of rock. They hurried to her assistance and found it was a houseboat dweller named Turner, who had tried to make her way down a narrow path which ended abruptly. Her strength was fast ebbing when her rescuers made their way to her and toug her to a place of safety. Ar. Turner says she would have rallen in a short time.

Miner Kills Bartender. John Fullerton, a well-known citizen of Girard, was killed in a saloon by Hines Sutpin, a coal miner. Fullerton was a bartender and a dis agreement arose over making change. Stitphin drew his revolver and shot three times, killing Fullerton almost instantly.

Fractures Ankle in Runaway. Mrs. Edward Barnett, living a short distance east of Edwardsville, was thrown from a buggy by a runaway horse, resulting in the fracture of her left ankle, besides numerous cuts and bruises. Her little daughter, Sarah, who was with her, escaped injury.

Play With Toy Pistol. While Chris Koller and a boy named Weeks were handling a 22-caliber revolver at Edwardsville the weapon was accidentally discharged, the bullet lodging in young Koller's cheek, causing a painful, though not serious,

To Build Parsonage.

wound.

The Presbyterian church of Virginia will build a new parsonage as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made. The finance committee in charge is composed of Messrs. George Conover, Herman Carls and Hon. R. W. Mills.

Aged Woman Splits Wood.

Mrs. Mary Rosemann, aged 62, while struck in the left eye by a small piece loss of the eye.

Street Paving at Salem.

The board of local improvements of Salem, which is composed of Mayor Tweed and Aldermen J. D. Telford and John C. Martin, has issued plans for about twenty blocks of brick street pavement.

Sell Lots to United States.

C. P. Housum and George Moeller conveyed to the United States of America lots on North Main street Decatur, which are to be used as the site for United States government building.

Deadly Target Rifle.

Clark Hoar, aged 13, son of Rev. B. A. Hoar, pastor of the M. E. church of Equality, was accidentally shot while playing with a target rifle. The wound, it is feared, will prove fatal.

Asks \$1,000 From City.

Mrs. Sarah E. Sexton has filed a suit against the city of Litchfield for damages for injuries sustained by failing on a defective sidewalk. The sum asked for is \$1,000.

Falls Down Stairs.

Burton A. Brockman, an employe of the Gardner governor works at Quincy, fell down a long flight of stairs, receiving dangerous injuries.

Child Fractures Arm. May Martin, the 9-year-old daughter of C. W. Martin, residing east of Nashville, sustained a fracture of the left arm by falling from a wagon.

Draws Revolver on Chief. John Fredessa of Assumption was arrested at a Pana hotel. He drew a revolver on the chief of police and then dashed through a window, where a couple of citizens caught and disarmed him after a terrific struggle.

Pest Destroys Trees. Prof. F. M. Webster of the university of Illinois visited Decatur to Ington has notified F examine the old trees in the parks, of Contralis that the with a view of learning the nature of some during the year

Banded in Restraint of Law

A blow was delivered to the trusts in Illinois when the a court at Chicago affirmed Judge ton's decision of the corporations officers forming the Northern Illi soft coal deaders' association. indictments were returned by a cial grand jury in January, 1902, dan ing the anthracite miners' strike. The corporations submitted their cases a statement of facts, after waiving jury in the criminal court, and were ords were filled with errors. The decision declared there were no re versible errors and that the corporations which had pooled their interests and styled their organization the Northern Illinois soft coal dealers as sociation was working in restraint of trade and was a criminal conspiracy under the statutes and common law. The indictments returned by special grand jury charged that the corporations and officials generally eld "unlawfully, fraudulently, maliciously, wrongfully and wickedly conspire and agree together to do an illegal act injurious to public trade."

DEATH OF G. A. R. MAN.

Col. Edgar D. Swain, formerly department commander of the Illinois G. A. R., died at his home in Batavia of -poplexy. He had lived in Chicago many years, during which time he had practiced dentistry, but moved to



Batavia four years ago. Colonel Swainalso was prominent to the Loyal Lagion, and for a time was colonel of the First Regiment, I. N. G. He was to have acted as chief of staff to Gen. C. S. Beatley in the Memorial day

Will Benefit Illinois Central.

parade.

From the time active construction work begins on the Panama canal a considerable volume of traffic in connection therewith is likely to be earried by the Illinois Central railroad. Not only will a large portion of the material and supplies used in the construction of the waterway pass over the road, but the actual opening of the canal cannot fail to stimulate traffic through gulf ports. The double-tracking of the Illinois Central has now been completed from Chicago to New Orleans, except for a stretch of 120

Engineer Company Reorganizes. Col. Theodore Ewert, acting under orders of Adjt. Gen. Scott, mustered out of the service of the state the engineer company at Springfield, Capt. Frank H. Hamilton commanding. The company was immediately reorganized as an independent organization and the former officers re-elected. At the election in Troop D, First Illinois cavalry, Second Lieut. Walz was elected captain, to succeed John Vorbes, resigned. Sergt. Gibson was elected first lieutenant.

Contracts Not to Wed.

The directors of the Montgomery school have adopted a novel method to insure themselves against the resignation of their teachers. Miss Ethel Eaton, the latest to be appointed, has signed a contract which stipulates that she will consider no proposition of marriage during her term of school. The directors have been annoyed for several years by the resignation of teachers and have resorted to this method as a last hope.

Quincy Chamber of Commerce. At the annual meeting of the Quincy chamber of commerce John S. Cruttenden was elected president, J. Parker and C. H. Williamson first and second vice presidents, C. S. Nichols treasurer, and the officers, Frank W. Osborn, David Stern and Capt. William Somerville, directors.

Board Selects Teachers. The Arenzville board of education has appointed Prof. Richard Linder superintendent of public schools. Ores Gould was appointed principal and Miss Ethel Bower teacher of the per mary department.