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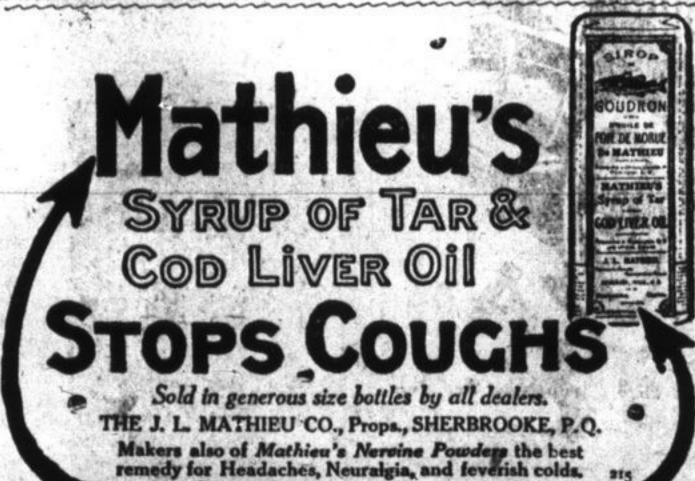
-When that old Headache sends its warning that you are going to suffer-take ZUTOO. When you feel a Cold coming on take ZUTOO. At the first sign of a pain-at the first feeling of sickness-take ZUTOO.

People who are full of their own conceit prove their emptiness A lean woman and a fat one near

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CHAPTER IX. We Compare Notes.

E found McGlynn in line about I me a block down the street.

"There you are," said he: "that's near enough. I'm a pretty good guesser. I hope you took care of the mules farm." "I fixed 'em."

"And the mud? How many times did you get stuck?" "Not at all."

He looked at me with surprise.

"Would you think of that now?" said "You must have loaded her light." "Did you get all the goods over?"

"Yes." go I spoke to the judge about. He handed it to me then, didn't he?" He laughed heartily. "No? Well, you're right. A man's a fool to work for any one but himself. Where's your bag? Haven't any? How do you carry your dust? Haven't any? I forgot; you're a tenderfoot, of course." He opened his buckskin sack with his teeth, and poured back the gold from the palm of his hand. Then he searched for a moment in all his pockets and produced a most peculiar chunk of gold metal. It was nearly as thick as it was wide, shaped roughly into an oc-

he handed to me. "It's about a fifty dollar slug," said he: "you can get it weighed. Give me the change next time you see me." "But I may leave for the mines to-

tagon, and stamped with initials. This

morrow," I objected. "Then leave the change with Jim Recket of the El Dorado." "How do you know I'll leave it?"

asked curiously. "I don't," replied McGlynn bluntly. "But if you need \$25 worse than you do a decent conscience then John A. McGlynn isn't the man to deny you!" Johnny and I left for the hotel.

"I didn't know you expected any mail," said I.

"I don't." "But thought I saw you in line"-"Oh, yes! When I saw the mail sacks it struck me that there might be quite a crowd; so I came up as quickly as I could and got in line. There were a number before me, but I got a place prefty well up in front. Sold the place for \$5, and only had to stand there about an hour at that."

"Good head!" I admired. "I'd never have thought of it. How have you got-

"Pretty rotten," confessed Johnny. "I tried all morning to find a decent opportunity to do something or deal in something, and then I got mad and plunged in for odd jobs. I've been a regular errand boy. I made \$2 carrying a man's bag up from the ship." "How much all told?" "Fifteen. I suppose you've got your

"That twenty-five you saw me get is

the size of it." Johnny brightened. We moved up closer in a new intimacy and sense of comradeship over delinquency. It relieved both to feel that the other, too,

bling places. "I'm going in here," said Johnny sud-

had falled. To enter the Plaza we had

to pass one of the larger of the gam-

He swung through the open doors,

The place was comparatively deserted, owing probably to the distribution of mail. We had full space to look about us, and I was never more autonished in my life. The outside of the building was rough and unfinished as a barn, having nothing but size to attract or recommend. The interior was the height of lavish luxury. A polished mahogany bar ran down one side, backed by huge gilt framed mirrors before which were pyramided fine glasses and bottles of liquor. The rest of the wall space was thickly hung with more plate mirrors, dozena of well executed oil paintings and strips of tapestry. At one end was a small raised stage on which lolled a half dozan darkies with banjos and tambounes. The floor was covered with a thick velvet carpet. Easy chairs, some

of them leather upholstered, stood

about in every available corner. The game was roulette. Johnny and the dealer evidently recognized each other, for a flash of the eye passed between them, but they gave no other sign. Johnny studied the board a moment, then laid \$22 in coin on one of the numbers. The other players laid out small bags of gold dust. The wheel spun and the ball rolled. Two of the men lost. Their dust was emptied into a drawer beneath the table and the bags tossed back to them. The third had won. The dealer deftly estimated the weight of his bet, lifting it in the flat of his left hand, then spun several gold pieces toward the winner. He seemed quite satisfied. The gambier stacked a roll of twenty dollar pieces, added one to them and thrust them at Johnny. I had not realized that the astounding luck of win-

The other three players were laying When he saw me coming he their bets for the next turn of the pulled a fat buckskin bag wheel. Johnny swept the gold pieces from his breeches pocket, opened its into his pocket and laid back the origmouth and shook a quantity of its inal stake against even. He lost. contents by guess into the palm of his | Thereupon he promptly arose and left

ning off a single number had befallen

"Ten to one-\$220!" he muttered to

the building. I followed him to the hotel somewhat gloomily, for I was now the only member of our party who had not all right. You ought to, you're from a made good the agreed amount of the partnership. It is significant that never for a moment did either Johnny or myself doubt that Talbot would have the required sum. Johnny, his spirits

quite recovered, whistled like a lark. We arrived just in time for the first supper call and found Talbot and Yank awaiting us. Yank was as cool and taciturn and nodded to us as indifferently as ever: Talbot, bowever. was full of excitement. His biscuit "Well, I'll acknowledge you're a brown complexion had darkened and judgmatical young man, and if you flushed until he was almost Spanish want a job with me I'll let that lawyer | black, and the little devils in his eyes led a merry dance between the surface and unguessed depths. He was also exceedingly voluble and, as usual when in that mood, aggravatingly indirect. He joked and teased and carried on like a small boy and insisted on ordering an elaborate dinner and a bottle of champagne in the face of even



he muttered to

Johnny's scandalized expostulations. When Johnny protested against expenditure it was time to look out. We lit our pipes and sat down at one end of the veranda, where we

would not be interrupted. "Fire abcad, Yank," advised Talbot. "There's two ways of going to the mines," said Yank. "One is to go overland by horses to Sutter's Fort or the new town of Sacramento and then up from there into the footbills of the big mountains way yonder. The other is to take a boat and go up river to Sacramento and then pack across with

"How much is the river fare?" asked "You have to get a sailboat. It costs

about \$40 apiece." "How long would it take?" "Four or five days." "And how long from here to Sutter's

Fort by horse?" "About the same." "Depends, then, on whether horses

are cheaper here or there.' "They are cheaper there. Or we can get our stuff freighted in by Greasers and hoof it ourselves." "Then I should think we ought to have a boat."

"I got one," said Yank. "Good for you!" cried Talbot. "You're man after my own heart! Well, Johnny told his tale a little proudly

and produced his required \$220. "You had luck," said Talbot noncommittally, "and you ran a strong risk of coming back here without a cent, didn't you? I want to ask you one question, Johnny. If you had lost would you have been willing to have taken the consequences?"

"Would you have been willing to have dropped out of this partnership?" Johnny stared.

"What do you mean?" asked Johnny

"I mean," said Talbot kindly, "that you had no right to try to get this money by merely a gambler's chance unless you were willing to accept the logical result if you failed. It isn't fair to the rest of us."

"I see what you mean," said Johnny slowly. "No; I hadn't thought of it that way." "Well, as I said, you had luck." repeated Talbot cheerfully, "so we needn't think of it further." It was

characteristic that Johnny took this

veiled rebake from Talbot Ward in a meek and chastened spirit. From any one else his high temper could never stand even a breath of criticism. "How about you, Frank?" Talbot asked me. I detailed my experiences in a very few words and exhibited my gold slug.

"That's the best I can do." I ended. and half of that does not belong to me. I can, however, in a few days scrape up the full amount. There is plenty to do here. And, barring bull luck, like Johnny's, I don't see much show of Leating that unless a man settled down to stay here."

Talbot stared at me ruminatively until I began to get restive: then he withdrew is eyes. He made no comment "I suppose you have your money," suggested Yank to him after a panse. "Oh, yes." said Talbot as though awaking from profound reverle

"Well, tell us about it. How did you get it? How long did it take you?" "About half an hour. I figured that everybody in a place like this would be wanting news. So I sorted out that bundle of old newspapers you fellows were always laughing at, and I went

out and sold them." "How much did you get for them?" asked Johnny.

"A dollar aplece for most and 50 cents for the rest. I came out \$270 shead all told. That, with Frank's and my \$10, gave me \$60 above the necessary amount."

Johnny grose and kicked himself sol-

"For not guessing what newspapers were good for," he explained. "Go on! What next? What did you do with he rest of the day?"

> CHAPTER X. Talbot Deserts.

ALBOT leaned forward, and all the animation of the dinner table returned to his manner and to his face. "Boys," said he earnestly, "this is

me most wonderful town that has ever been! There has been nothing like it in the past, and there will never be anything like it again. After I had sold out my papers I went wandering across the Plaza with my hands in my pockets. Next the El Dorado there is a bole in the ground. It isn't much of a hole, and the edges are all caving in because it is sandy. While I was looking at it two men came slong. One was the owner of the hole, and the other said be was a lawyer. The owner offered to rent the hole to the lawyer for \$250 a month, and the lawyer was inclined to take him up. After they had gone on I paced off the hole just for fun. It was twelve feet square by about six feet deep. Then I walked on down toward the water front and talked with all the storekeepers. They do a queer business. All these goods we see around came out here on consignment. The local storekeepers have a greater or lesser share and sell mainly on commission. Since they haven't any adequate storehouses and can't get any put up again, they sell the stuff mainly at auction and get rid of it as quickly as possible. That's why some things are so cheap they can make pavements of them when a ship happens to come in loaded with one article. I talked with some of them and told them they ought to warehouse a lot of this stuff so as to keep it over until the market steadied. They agreed with that, but pointed out that they were putting up warehouses as fast as they could, which wasn't very fast, and in the meantime the rains and dust were destroying their goods. It

was cheaper to sell at auction." "And a heap more exciting," put in Johnny. "I went to one of them."

"Well, I wandered down to the shore and looked out over the bay. It was full of shipping, riding high at anchor. I had an idea. I hired a boat for \$5 and rowed out to some of the ships. Believe me or not, most of them were empty, not even a watchman aboard. I found some of the captains, however, and talked with each of them. They all told the same story."

"Crew skipped to the mines, I suppose," said Yank. "Exactly. And they couldn't get any more. So I offered to hire a few of

"The captains?" I inquired.

"No: the ships." "The what?" we yelled in chorus. "The ships." "But if the captains can't get

crews"-"Ah, I don't want to sail them," went on Talbet impatiently. "It was hard work getting them to agree. They all cherished notions they could get crews and go sailing some more-good old salts! But I hired four at last. Had to take them for only a month, however, and had to pay them in ad-

vance five hundred apiece." "I beg your pardon," said Johnny softly, f'for interrupting your pleasing tale, but the last item interested me. I do not know whether I quite heard it right."

(Continued Next Saturday.)

Men who have seen better days as a rule looked at them too often through the bottom of whiskey glas-

Most of our mistakes would never e noticed if we did not call atten-

Success never comes to a man who afraid to risk failure.



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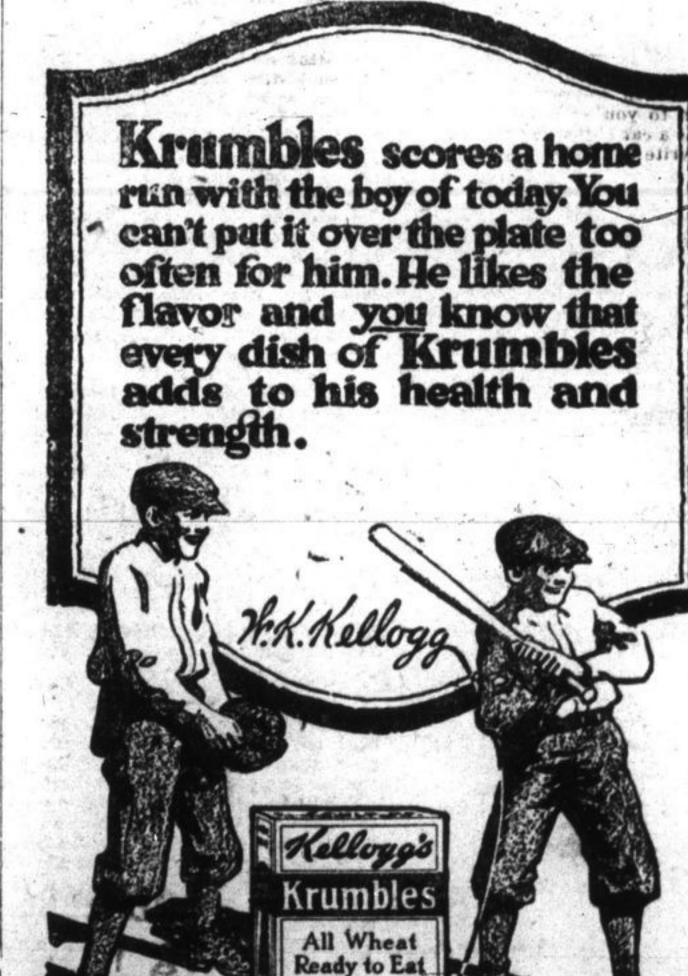
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