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SOAP POWDER

A COW IN A MINING CAMP

By PHILIP VERRILL MIGHELS

Hubbard, standing at the opening of his mine, saw a miniature whirlwind which a hat from the sage brush below on the hill. Immediately thereafter a young woman arose from a rock where she had been sitting to chase after her property. Laughing aloud, the miner ran down the hill and caught the hat.

"Well, I swear, I didn't know you was anywhere about, George," he panted; "but I seen the whirlwind steal this, and here I come."

She coiled her hair on her head. It was wavy hair, brown where it started from the scalp, but golden for the greater length. "Where was you?" she answered. "I didn't see nobody."

"I was up to the claim," said he. "Was you resting here in the brush?"

"I was trying to be alone."

"Huh!" said he, "and I was yearning to see your pretty face."

She tossed her head impatiently.

"Well, don't stand there till you take root and grow!" she snapped. "I've got to get back to camp before it's night."

They started westward in the brush, she with feverish haste.

They saw a swarthy man approaching. He spit away a cigarette, and showed his contempt as he gazed on the work-dusty form of the girl's companion.

"Well, George," he slowly drawled, "haven't you shook him yet? I should think he'd know that he's a rank sucker. Ain't he dropped to your work?"

The miner's face was crimson as he confronted the sneering newcomer. "Look here, Charlie," he growled, "you're making indecent remarks about a lady which has promised to be my wife. I see you've got your gun on, but I ain't. You'll see it on the dump. If you want to thump, I'm going to give you a thumping."

"Chop off, will you?" said the gambler.

"You ain't worth fighting. You're a squeezed lemon. Do you want to know where your last little bar of bullion went, that you gave to George? Look at that."

He had hardly flashed the small billet of metal before the miner leaped upon him. The gambler jumped and attempted to draw his revolver, but the hand of Hubbard was there ahead, and thung it away.

The girl, up to this, had merely stood there admiring the gambler. Now she was darting about the back of Hubbard's head, her countenance intense with concern.

Then, like a bolt from the clearest sky, the butt of the gambler's pistol suddenly descended on the back of Hubbard's head. The girl had dealt him a powerful blow. He dropped on his face. The gambler fell only to his hands and was quickly on his feet. He darted at once to the prostrate form.

"No, no!" cried the girl shuddering. "Hurry up—get away!" She grasped Dow's hand in her own and dragged to get him off the dump. In the twilight the two hastened together over the trail at Thompson's Bar.

When Hubbard opened his eyes, the moon was shining coldly on the hills. The air was keen with frost. He arose stiffly and rubbed at a swollen spot on his head. He staggered as he dusted his hat and tried to think. Then he made his way down the slope to a cabin at the edge of Bullion Hill Camp.

The chinks of the cabin appeared to let in all the chill of the wind, except on the northern side, where the snow had plastered all the logs with a six inch coating of ice.

Now and again on the puffs of wind came a moaning sound, fraught with suffering. Hubbard, taking a lantern, fought his way through the storm to a shed 100 yards to the west. A bellows louder than ever before came on the wind.

This light was reflected from four bright points, two the wild eyes of a trembling cow, and two more the new optics of a tiny top-eared calf. The mother creature lay upon the ground, bellowing eagerly, a pencil of snow across her back, flung from a gaping chink in the boarding.

Hubbard hung the lantern on a nail. Then he entered a number of ore sacks to blanket the freezing creatures. He lifted the calf near the mother's nose, and otherwise labored for the lives and comfort of both. He was back and forth from the cabin to the shed a dozen times; he poured hot drinks down the cow's throat all night. About 4 o'clock in the morning she died, Hubbard took the calf in his arms, covered it closely with the sacks and stumbled with it to the cabin. He placed it down before the fire and made ready for bed.

The miners came out of their bunks and stood with arms akimbo about the

tiny animal, earnestly regarding its blinking eyes. One announced that they had named the calf the "Bully Boy."

"That's all right," said Hobart, "only he's a girl, and an orphan besides, for he's mother has kicked the bucket."

The calf followed Hubbard a storm of snow that is now famous in the annals of the Pacific slope. Roads were lost in the drifts, trains were blocked in the mountains, towns were isolated completely from the world without. The stage to Bullion Hill failed even to start for more than two weeks.

The miners in the camp hoarded milk for the little calf with jealous care, yet it was all gone by noon of the fourth day. The Bully Boy was hungry and growing thinner on the diet. Day by day Hubbard went down the hill for news of the stage.

When the milk was gone he bought the only pail of oats in the camp. With this he fashioned a porridge. It proved a poor expedient and was soon gone.

The four men watched their Bully Boy in silence and despair, they had learned to regard it with incredible affection. The red little body was peaked with bones and gullied with hollows, the legs were weak. On the seventh day, with fingers in the tiny creature's mouth, Hubbard carried it down to the mine.

The miners there placed stroking hands upon the silken coat of the only creature ever born in Bullion Hill with a sort of awe. "Poor little Bully Boy!" was all they said.

That night, or rather, at 2 o'clock in the morning, the Bully Boy, who had heretofore maintained a patient silence, gave voice to a solitary bleat. It was like a child's helpless cry:

"Mab-mah."

Hubbard dressed and went scuffling through the snow to the shed. In the cold and darkness he sat there for more than an hour with his face in the mouth of the starving little creature.

"I'm going to Thompson's Bar," he said to the others in the morning, "for to fetch some milk."

"It's 20 miles over and 20 miles back," said Skinner.

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"NEAR" DIAMONDS IN NEW ONTARIO

Crystals Discovered Near Cochrane, Ont., by Railway Commissioner.

Toronto, Dec. 4.—(Special).—Commissioner Fred Dane, of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario railway commission, returned this morning from a trip to the north, with five samples of crystals, like diamonds. These have been shown to experts, who, Dane, says, decline to express an opinion as to whether they are diamonds or not. The crystals were found in the clay belt east of the new town of Cochrane, together with others in considerable numbers.

He accomplished this object by applying methods employed for the production of well known anti-toxin serums. He injected certain animals with the "saccharomyces neofornans" toxin, duly modified, and succeeded in obtaining a serum having undoubted preventive and curative properties in the case of malignant tumors.

Prof. San Felice's experiments, which were made so successfully on the lower animals, are now being extended to human beings similarly affected.

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Fashion Hint for Times Readers



AN IDEAL HAT FOR THE LITTLE GIRL.

The less there is on the small girl's hat the better, for the little face in itself should be the chief note of prettiness in the harmony. The charm and childish daintiness of this graceful hat could scarcely be rivaled by the most elaborate concoction of lace and feathers, and the style is a very easy one for mother fingers to reproduce. The shape is a big, roll-brim felt sailor, bent down into mushroom effect. White mesaline ribbon is arranged in generous loops, so that the trimming stands out around the crown like a full ruche. At the right side is a large bow of the ribbon with ends softly drooping over the hair.

MARINE ENQUIRY CLOSES ITS SESSION AT HALIFAX

Much Waste and Extravagance is Shown by the Evidence—One Case Where an Official's Carelessness Caused a \$30,000 Wreck.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 4.—Judge Cassels' commission finished its inquiry at Halifax this evening and adjourned to meet in Ottawa in about ten days. Judge Cassels and Lawry Watson and Perron will leave for Toronto and Montreal tomorrow morning.

The most spicy evidence of the day was when Agent Parsons told how he had discussed with ex-Deputy Minister Gourdeau the desirability of cutting down expenses on the government steamers and that official had advised against retrenchment, saying, "let her rip." Commander Spain was present at the interview and said nothing.

A. Deb Tremaine, accountant of the marine department, was on the stand this afternoon.

"Have you said that practically you have had charge of the affairs of the agency?" asked Lawyer Watson.

"I may have said something to that effect."

"Have you written the minister on those lines?"

"I have some recollection of such a letter."

"Have you said that it was impossible to properly administer the affairs of the office owing to the intervention of the members?"

"I am not aware of saying so."

"Is there any foundation for such a statement?"

"Not for such a sweeping statement."

"How would you put it?"

"We do the best we can subject to certain directions which come from the minister. We had to obey instructions."

"Members Ran the Show."

Judge Cassels—"It simply means that the members ran the whole show. You felt you had to do what you were told or you might lose your berth?"

"Do you remember the circumstances of the account of J. A. Dunn, for work without authority?"

"I cannot answer yes or no."

"Was there any authority for the work?"

"An implied authority. I would like to make an explanation. Certain repairs were authorized to be done on the ship, and it was at this time that the electrical repairs also came in. The amount on the whole exceeded the appropriation."

"You remember the bill of Hon. D. McPherson for \$1,208, which was objected to because the appropriation was \$500. Did you certify this, though the letter had been on file that such jobs should not be certified?"

"I don't know that I certified that account at all."

"What have you to say in regard to your certificates of the class of work like that done by Howell, who makes good jobs for bad times in other portions of the year?"

"Those certificates came under special officers of the department and all we had to do was to pass them."

"Is it not a fact that expenditures for useless material have been incurred from time to time for years in this agency?"

"I suppose so."

Judge Cassels—"Was it known to the department at Ottawa that the members had control of appointments?"

"Was?"

Judge Cassels—"Of course that's all over. The members don't run it now."

Mr. Watson—"Was it known to the deputy minister that the members ran things?"