JOHN BURT

By FREDERICK UPHAM ADAMS

Author of "The Kidnapped Millionaire," "Colonel Monroe's Doctrine," Etc.

COPYRIGHT, 1905, BY FREDERICK UPHAM ADAMS All rights reserved

COPYRIGHT, 1905, BY A. J. DREXEL BIDDLE

CHAPTER X—Continued.

"Tell ye what we'll dew," said Sam. "How many yards does it take for a dress?" Fifteen? All right. We'll give ye sixty cents a yard—cash. What d'ye say, Mr. Farnsworth? Is it a bargain?"

"All right," groaned the merchant. "I leave me nothing, but I'll do it as a favor. Of course you want some black lace for trimmings?"

"Sure," replied Sam.

"Something about twenty-five cents a yard, which I can honesty recommend," said Mr. Farnsworth. After inspecting cheaper qualities, on which Mr. Farnsworth fixed higher prices, Mrs. Rounds consented to the purchase of eight yards, though Mr. Farnsworth advised ten.

Sam's crowning triumph was the purchase of a black lace shawl, listed at one hundred and fifty dollars. After ten minutes of dickering with Mr. Farnsworth, Sam succeeded in acquiring that treasure for $11.25. Likewise he bought a twenty-five dollar bonnet for three and a half dollars. Handkerchiefs, stockings, petticoats and shoes fell into Sam's hands at ridiculous prices, until his mother, with tears in her eyes, declared that she would not consent to the purchase of another article.

Mr. Farnsworth presented an itemized bill for $47.27, which Sam paid from a generous roll of greenbacks. On the plea of arranging for expressing the goods to Hingham, Sam met Mr. Farnsworth in his office and gave him a check for the balance of $445.50.

"I swan, I haven't had so much fun in ten years," said Sam, as he shook

DREAMS LIKE OLD TIMES NOW HAVE YOU OFFER A BLESSIN'"

hands with Mr. Farnsworth and thanked him. "I reckon Ma Rounds will be the best dressed old lady between Boston an' Newport. Goodby, Mr. Farnsworth, an' good luck ter you."

CHAPTER XI.

Sam's New York Triumphs.

Ignoring his mother's protest, Sam ordered a dressmaker and for two weeks Mrs. Rounds found pleasure in assisting the seamstress with her work. Sam had acquainted the latter with his secret and she agreed to protect it. But his precautions were in vain.

Like other crimes less difficult to condone, this one was destined to be revealed. The preacher's wife called on Mrs. Rounds, and since they had become very friendly, was shown the new gown and the black lace shawl. Whatever of envy and malice the good woman's breast was lost in surprise when Mrs. Rounds innocently mentioned the price she had paid for the silk.

"Sixty-five cents a yard for that silk!" she exclaimed. "Why, my dear Mrs. Rounds, you surely must be jesting. I had a dress like that when I was married, and it cost six dollars a yard. And that lace at thirty cents. It surely cost five dollars a yard, and perhaps more. That beautiful shawl must have cost more than a hundred dollars. I understand now," she continued, in some confusion. "Your son intended to surprise you. It was very good of him and very clumsy in me to reveal his secret."

When the visitor had departed Mrs. Rounds looked with awe at the garments spread out before her. A familiar step sounded in the hallway, and Sam entered, his homely face rosy with a smile.

"I'm back ergain," he said, fondly embracing his mother. "Admirin' yer new gown, eh? Go an' put it on, an' yer bonnet an' shawl. I want ter see how ye looks, dressed up as er real lady."

She held his hands and looked up, tears trickling down her faded cheeks.

"You—you told me an awful story, Samuel," she faltered, "but—but—I don't think you meant to do wrong, and—and I'll pray for you. You are very good to me, Samuel, if you did break one of the commandments."

"You didn't break no commandment," said Sam with a contrite grin, "it only kinder bent it er little. Don't ye worry erbout ther cost of them clothes. I've made enough money since I've been away ter pay fer three more dresses like that air one. It's some low good fer yo, an' I want ye ter wear it just as if ye wa'nt afraid of it."

Sam's rapidly increasing business kept him away from home much of the time. Mrs. Rounds was busy for a month with her wardrobe. She then knitted socks for Sam, until he had a supply sufficient to last a lifetime. In this crisis of a dearth of work, the wife of a neighbor was taken ill with typhoid fever. There were five small children in the family, and they were too poor to employ a nurse.

An hour after Mrs. Rounds heard the news she had taken charge of the case. Hour after hour and day after day she fought the attacks of the insidious disease. She cooked the meals, soothed the crying children, spoke words of comfort to the distracted husband, performed the housework, and slept at such rare intervals as she could find between her multitudinous duties. The patient was convalescent when Sam returned home. He at once employed a nurse to take his mother's place.

She listened patiently and with a puzzled smile to Sam's rebuking lecture.

"When folks are sick, some one must take care of them, Samuel," she said, when he had ended. "They are poor, and I had nothing else to do. The Bible says you must visit the sick when they're afflicted. You won't let me do any work here in the house, and I must do something."

Mrs. Rounds was the first to learn of sickness in a trouble in any family for miles around, and first to respond. She officiated at childbirths, or with tender fingers closed the eyes of the dead and stitched their shrouds. When children had croup or measles, the neighbors sent, not for the doctor, but for Mrs. Rounds. She found relaxation in sewing for any one who would accept her services.

Sam made several successful ventures in the New York horse market and decided to move his mother. He bought a cozy house on the East Side, fronting a small park, and installed his mother as mistress of the establishment. His business prospered. Having firmly established his position as a shipper and dealer in horses, he turned his attention to the commission business. Taking advantage of a shortage in the cranberry crop, he bought a large part of the available supply and cleared thousands of dollars in consequence of his sagacity.

He then embarked in the produce and commission business on a large scale and scored another success.

At the age of thirty-five, having amassed a competency, Sam Rounds determined to improve what he termed his "book education." Four winter terms in the Rehoboth public school gave him all of which he could boast in the way of erudition. He therefore began a course of study in a night school, which he attended four evenings in the week. There he joined a debating society, and became a member of various social and political organizations in his district.

The corruption of the local politicians precipitated a revolt against the party in power, and the voters of Sam's district held a meeting for the purpose of nominating an alderman to stand against Incumbent Jones, who had betrayed his trust. Sam's name was proposed with cheers. He was nominated by acclamation and escorted to the platform.

"If honesty is good policy in business, as they say it is," he declared, "it should be a good thing in politics. Those who know me know that I'm not a politician, and those that don't know me will mighty soon find it out. The only promise I can make is that if I am elected—and I calculate to be—is that I would no sooner think of cheating my neighbors as an alderman, than I would of cheating them in selling potatoes or cabbages."

Samuel Lemuel Rounds was triumphantly elected alderman by the largest majority ever cast for a candidate in his district.

CHAPTER XII.

Lost in the Snow.

"Looks like more snow!"

At the sound of his master's voice a shepherd dog raised his head inquiringly, and followed the gaze of the speaker as he studied the leaden sky and the crests of snowclad ridges and mountains. This habit of voicing thought develops in those who spend long periods in solitude, and James Blake—once a farmer boy in Hingham, and now a California gold miner and prospector—was no exception to the rule.

"Let's get breakfast, Dog," he said as he entered the cabin. "I told you it was going to snow."

Blake's cabin stood well back from the edge of a cliff half way up the slope of a valley in the Sierra Nevadas of Central California.

Scattered along the walls were mining tools, powder kegs, guns, fishing rods, and a miscellaneous assortment of lumber and firewood. A small but strongly constructed ell was used as a storeroom. Haunches of venison, the carcass of a brown bear, and long strings of mountain trout were here securely guarded against the depredations of wandering animals. Bags of flour and oatmeal, some potatoes, sides of bacon, and the remnants of a ham completed the more substantial portion of Blake's larder. He often surveyed his snug storeroom with much satisfaction. Nothing but a conflagration or a serious illness could disturb his labors during the long winter season.

Breakfast ended, James Blake lit his pipe and started for the mouth of the tunnel. Enough less than an hour had passed since he entered the cabin the snow already had drifted across the path and blocked the door. Those whose knowledge of snowstorms is confined to localities where a foot or two of snow in forty-eight hours is called a "blizzard," and esteemed a meteorological event, have no conception of a snow storm in the Sierras. Near the timber line in the Sierra Nevadas there has been recorded a fall of fourteen feet of snow in as many consecutive hours—an inch every five minutes—a swirling, writhing, choking maelstrom of flakes, borne on the wings of a freezing gale.

It was such a storm that Blake faced when he opened the cabin door and plunged through the drift into the tunnel.

"This is an old snifter, isn't it, Dog?" he exclaimed as he stood, in the mouth of the shaft and shook the snow from his blouse.

Blake lit a lantern and wormed his way into the dismal hole. A few minutes later he was hard at work, pausing now and,then to examine the rock with eager eyes. He had been toiling for three hours or more when the dog's sharp bark attracted his notice. As he turned, the animal raised his head, barked sharply, and growled in a peculiar manner.

"What's the matter, Dog?" said Blake, patting his friend. "What a cursed shame the creature can't talk! Speak up, old boy! Seen a bear? Don't bother with him—let him alone. Go away, Dog, I'm busy," and Blake returned to his task.

Leaning back against the wall of the tunnel, with his paws hanging in a most doleful fashion, the dog sounded a long-drawn wail, so pitiful in its intensity that Blake dropped his pick and gazed at the animal in amazement mixed with terror. The animal sprang forward and fastened his teeth in the leg of Blake's trousers, pulling gently but firmly, growling and whining.

"This is a new freak!" muttered Blake, grabbing the lantern. "Something has happened. Perhaps the hut's afire."

He moved quickly towards the mouth of the tunnel. The dog gave a joyful bark, and led the way. Blake reached the open air, and floundered through the drifts until the cabin was visible through the blinding snow. The dog went past it, and nowled dismally when his master paused. Rushing into the hut, Blake secured a long rope, one end of which he tied to the leg of a bench near the door. Paying out the coil he dashed sturdily forward.

(To be continued.)

BOUGHT AMUSEMENT BY SAMPLE

Backwoodsmen Got Report of One Who Saw Chow Between Acts.

An old actor, telling some incidents of "the road," remarked:

"While we were in Cincinnati a party of young men from away back somewhere, being in the city, become possessed of the idea of going to our show. They decided to make up a party, however, and send in one of their number, who should shortly come out and report whether or not the show was worth their time and money. This committee of one happened to get in between acts, and while the orchestra was playing an entre-act select on. The committee man came out very long, but went and reported to the full house that he could not see anything 'in thar cept'n a lot of fellers a-fiddlin' befo' a big pictur' an' some folks a-settin' around a-chinnin'.

"At another place I heard a man say to another, 'I'd like ter see the show pooty well of the main feller hadn't er topped two or three times to holler at a feller down the road, askin' him to light an' look at his saddle, an' then tell in' him to fetch him a newspaper, if he was goin' to town.'

"It was a nasty, chilly night when we played at Moline. The theater was in a back street, surrounded by a flood that reminded me of southwest Chicago in a spring thaw. There were but few persons in the auditorium, and I heard one comedian ask the 'heavy man' what he supposed those folks were doing there, or how they happened to come in.

"'Probably came in to get out of the rain and warm their feet,' the villain replied."

JAPANESE ARE TRUE POETS.

Chicago Club Woman Recalls Some of Their Characteristics.

An observant Chicago club woman who recently returned from a year tells the following interesting characteristics of the "little brown man":

"He is always a student and always a poet. The sight of an almond tree in full bloom will cause him to pour forth his admiration in poetry, which he writes with a brush on rice paper and attaches to the limbs of the beautiful pink flowering tree. Such a tree may in a few days become the shrine of hundreds of devotees, each inspired by the sight to a high pitch of poetic fervor, which vents itself in the form of more poems, so that before the almond season is over a whole orchard is often a fluttering mass of poetical tributes to the beauties of flora.

"I have known a hard working Japanese to save a whole year in order to take his family on a trip to the mountains to hear and study the music of a distant waterfall."

Equal to the Situation.

Leonard D. Baldwin of ex-Attorney General Griggs' law firm told the oth er day of an Irishman who was taken by his priest in an intoxicated condition to a cemetery and propped up against a gravestone. The priest had a lot of the Irishman's friends come to the cemetery dressed in winding sheets to scare him. The friends watched, while one of them went behind the gravestone and poured enough cold water on the Irishman's face to wake him up. The Irishman looked around him. He saw the tombs, the tombstones and the figures in winding sheets. "Shay, you fellers," he said, "ye've been here longer than Oi have. Whar kin Oi git a drink?"

DAIRY.

When to Feed Cows.

Shall we feed the cows before or after milking or during the process of milking. Other things being equal, we would say feed the cow after milking for several reasons. In the first place it is inconvenient to have the cow eating while the process of milk ing is going on. Every milker knows that the constant movement of the cow is very annoying to the milker and that in the case of roughage being fed on open floors, the constant stretching of the cows in reaching for the hay pushed away from them is still more of an objection. The hay or straw fed often has in it a great deal of dust and this dust is drawn by the currents of air over the milkers and getd into the pails. It not infrequently happens that undesirable ferments thus come into contact with the milk, and later are found in the cream, butter or cheese. If the cows are fed before milking there is much dust resulting when the cows are largely of dry forage, and this dust has not had time to settle before milking begins, unless that act is put off for a considerable time. If a long time intervenes, the flavors of turnips and cabbage, if any have been fed frequently, show themselves in the milk, but when the cows are fed after milking there can be no particular factor that will disturb the milker except that sometimes the cows will become a little restless on account of the near approach of feeding time. We would like to know what the experiences of our readers are in this matter.

Milking With Wet Hands.

In milking, the hands do not need to be wet. The habit of wetting them should be abandoned. It is practically impossible to keep the hands moist without using the foam on the milk as a source of moisture. The milker may imagine that by merely touching his fingers to the top of the foam no injury comes to the milk, but the habit had better be abandoned in the interest of cleanliness. We think however that some of our writers overdraw the matter when they talk of milkers dipping their fingers into the milk. The fact is that the fingers of the milkers reach the solid milk. The writer has never seen a case of this kind. According to the writers referred to, the milkers dip their fingers into the milk and convey to the teats of the cow so much of the milk that the latter drips from the teats into the pail and oozes out from between the fingers in milking. Who ever saw a case of this kind? But even at its best, the habit of moistening the teats with milk is not one that should be perpetuated. If the hands were to be moistened at all, pure water would have to be kept near for that purpose. This is impracticable. Therefore let us put aside the practice of moistening the teats at all and milk with dry hands.

An Outrageous Practice.

The men that buy and sell cows at the Union Stockyards, Chicago, are frequently charged with practices that are far from creditable. A story we recently heard illustrates the point. A lady living in the outskirts of Chicago visited the stockyards to purchase a milk cow. She happened upon a cow with very fine development of udder and teats. Again, not a bad looking cow had not been milked that morning, and the dealer at once had a man attend to that important function, in the presence of the lady. The milk yield of the cow was very great and the dealer assured her that he got the same amount of milk each time he milked the cow. The lady paid the price asked for the cow and took her away. In a few days she returned, saying that the cow gave only a moderate—very moderate—amount of milk, and wanted the money back for the cow, as she claimed deception had been used in selling the animal. The dealer told her he could not give her back the money, but that no deception had been practiced. "Madam," said he, "how often do you milk that cow?" "Why," replied the lady, "I milk her twice a day, as everyone else does that milks a cow." "Ah, madam," said the dealer, "that accounts for it; I only milked her twice a week."

Reckless Feeding of Grain.

Some men never feed grain to their cows and some go to the other extreme and feed too much, thus wasting a high-priced feed material. Only the man that is to some extent an experimenter can tell exactly where the dividing line between profitable and unprofitable feeding of grain is. It is now pretty well established that the men that have been feeding from fifteen to twenty pounds of grain per day to their cows have been wasting a good deal of money. When the roughage is good hay and silage, from five to ten pounds of grain per day is sufficient for all needs in winter, and half of that quantity will do in summer. The feeding of too much grain induces many intestinal diseases and sometimes even, just as overfeeding a human being would do.

Who Adds the Formalin?

Talking recently with Professor Eaton of the Illinois Pure Food Commission, a representative of the Farmers' Review was told that the farmers that produce the milk are not the ones that, as a general thing, add the formalin. The farmer keeps the milk but a short time after it is drawn, and during that short time it will not sour. It is the man that keeps it longest that has the most occasion for adding preservatives to it. This may in some cases be the buyer and in others the peddler. Occasionally the consumer is guilty of the same act, thinking that it is a harmless way of keeping his milk sweet. It would be interesting to have a thorough investigation made of the use of preservatives by farmers supplying milk to Chicago.

The pure-bred animal is more likely to transmit its qualities than is the animal of mixed breeding.

A smooth wire fence of any kind is more desirable than a barb wire one.

Real Estate Exchange

Of Whitehead & Mitchell at the Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of farms, city and village lots and real estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list:

2.

Farm of 80 acres, well fenced, well watered, under cultivation, 40 acres in timber, 10 acres in orchard, 35 miles from Bloomfield Center and electric railway to Detroit and Pontiac. Terms easy.

3.

Twenty-nine and two-thirds acres of land near Irish Church in Royal Oak township. It is at present laid out in small fruits, has 6-room house in good repair; 65 apple trees, 80 plum trees and plenty of other small fruit. Buildings insured for $2,000. Price $2,800. Terms easy. This place is just out side of the lighter soil of the Oak openings and is a fine place for a poultry man or a small farm suitable for small fruit or 5 utility farm. Come and let us show you over the place some day.

5.

Elegant house and lot 66 feet front and 20 rods deep on Maple Ave. West, (Half an acre). Fine barn and outbuildings. 10 acres in timber, 6 miles from Bloomfield Center and electric railway to Detroit and Pontiac. Terms easy.

8.

The VanEvery farm on the north shore of Silver Lake, 160 acres, two good houses, 2½ acres of orchard, 2 barns, 2 silos, 2 wells, 2 miles from Walled Lake, 12 miles from Detroit. Fine location for a country home, fishing, boating and bathing. Terms easy.

10.

Large, roomy two-story house on Townsend St. in Birmingham, good barn, city water and sewerage connected. Price $3,500. Terms easy and will trade for good small fruit and good neighborhood.

12.

The Taylor farm in the town of Troy, 137½ acres, good farm house and farm buildings fine orchard, and the best quality of soil in the whole county. Will exchange for a good house and small farm. Farm is only 4 miles from Birmingham and 2 miles from Troy. Price $100 per acre. Will take other property for part pay. Tell you more about it if you ask us.

13.

Farm in Southfield, 67 acres of which 10 acres is timber, good brick and frame house, cistern, steam Creek runs through farm. Water in every lot the year round. New, small house and small barn. Farm is 2 and one-fourth miles from Birmingham. Price $80 per acre. Will take other property for part pay. Tell you more about it if you ask us.

16.

Fine fruit farm of 68 acres about 3 miles from Birmingham, nine acres in bearing peaches, 5 acres timber. No waste land. 1,500 peach trees, 1,000 apple trees, 50 apple trees, 200 raspberries, 4 acres of strawberries, etc. Good house and barn. Price $60 per acre. Will take other property for part pay. Tell you more about it if you ask us.

10.

A small farm of 3 acres, being part of the W. ½ of section 8, 6 miles from Birmingham, 1½ miles from Walled Lake, on Loon Lake road. Has a good house and pig-pen. But things insured for $1,200. Has a constantly supplied spring and soft water from Evans well, which is piped to the house and pig-pen. Soil is a sandy loam, and is ideally adapted for small fruits and vegetables. Has a fine young orchard of apples, pears, peaches and plums. Also has a few small fruits. For a poor man with a small family, who does not want to work out in the factory, this will be worth coming to see us about. Now don't go along all your life working for somebody else and paying rent. Come and tell us what you can do and see if we can't help you out. If you don't see anything if we don't deal, and if we do, the man who is selling the property pays all the commission.

38.

Two story house and lot on south side of Oakland Ave., Pontiac, Mich., 8 rooms and bath, hot air furnace, 110 ft. deep. Hot and cold water on both floors, wood and coal house, and every modern convenience. Terms $500 cash, balance on long time. Price $4,200. If you are curious or interested just ask us for fuller particulars. If you are only curious it will be curious if we can't interest you.

42.

Brick house, good barn and seven acres of land suitable for planting on south side of Maple Ave. east, Birmingham, Mich. Fine location, suburban surroundings. Price $2,500 and it is worth every cent of it. We don't believe it, ask us about it and we will prove it.

44.

Stock Farm—the celebrated Coffin Farm—80 acres in township of Southfield. Buildings are well painted and in good condition. House 12 room frame house, with hard and soft water in kitchen and bath room, surrounded with large handsome old trees. Horse barn 40x60 feet, with basement for stock and carriage room. Bank barn with grain cry, over head for hay, cow stables in basement, horse floor and 8 or 6 additional stalls, sheep room and windows, windmill, tank, etc. Foundation, cellar, etc. Horse barn with 4 box and 2 open stalls and harness room. Corn crib and shed. Hog house. Sheep barn with 4 pens and 2 alleys. Implement shed. Poultry house, stall attached and paddock. Ball with 2 bowling alleys and pool room. Tool house, with its purpose and isolated from other buildings, outside closet for horse. Outside closet for men, etc. Fruit—about 2 acres apple orchard well trimmed and in good condition, 30 cherries, 30 plums, 30 pears, 30 peaches, 1,000 small and bushes; 1,000 pear trees, 200 peach, 40 apricots, 40 quince, currants, grapes, straw berries, etc. 3 acres timber on cold lot. Water in house with hot and cold, and soft water in kitchen pump at stables; branch of River Rouge runs through farm. Soil is a sandy loam. NEVER DRY. Farm is well tiled. Fences all of first quality, in good repair and in splendid condition of soil. Farm has current and average of 40 heads of cattle, 10 horses, 50 sheep, 20 head of any kind sold and cattle farm heavily manured. No commercial fertilizers used. Better inquire about this farm it may pay you.

55.

Village lots on Saginaw street, bounded north by lots of C. W. Smith, east by lots of Mrs. M. Fry, south by Bower street, west by Saginaw street, 66 ft. front on Saginaw street, 174 feet deep on north side and 148 feet deep on south side; all in the village of Birmingham, Mich. One of the finest building sites in the village. Price $ 00.

00.

Lots 44 and 46 Randall's Addition, price $1[illegible] for the 2. Which is very close. Will exchange for small house and 1-4 in Birmingham.

57.

Farm of 40 acres, more or less, the sw ¼ of sw ¼ of section 2, Farming on, Oakland county, Mich., in the finest farming country of the county, with a fairly good soil digge. There is no thrasher made on the property and it is less than a mile from the Pontiac and Detroit electric line, 1 mile from Birmingham, 2 miles straight south of Birmingham, where they can get milk, cream, poultry, eggs, vegetables, etc., and 2 miles from the Birmingham, Detroit and Pontiac