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CHAPTER XV.

A Brilliant Campaign.
 James Blake yet longer for speculative laurels. His one ambition was to achieve some sweeping coup, and taste the inward joy of triumph far from the undereared fame which had amused half a million of dollars the temptation to risk it was too strong to be resisted. John Burt had just terminated a campaign which had netted him nearly a million in profit, and John Hawkins had been equally successful. Blake saw a chance and took it. With nerve and skill he worked a stock to a point where victory seemed certain, but an unforeseen event ruined his chances at the moment when the spell of Blake seemed broken. The market turned, but by a series of moves, brilliant and inspired by success instead of disaster, Blake saved himself from a complete rout, and emerged with one-half of his capital.

A few days later he held an interview with John Burt—an interview destined to mark an epoch in his career. "Can you arrange your affairs so as to go to New York for me, starting on Saturday?" asked John Burt. "I can start to-night, if necessary," replied Blake. "Saturday night will be better," said Burt. "Two important railroad stocks will decline heavily next week. They are now buoyant, and the public is buying them. If you would like to dispose of my interest in them before they reach New York. Two million dollars will be placed there to your credit. Proceed at once on your arrival, to sell short one hundred thousand shares of each of these stocks. You should be able to do this in three days without seriously breaking the market. You hold in your name between five and six million dollars' worth of stocks and bonds, which are

market prices, and then offer railroads A and B in five thousand lots.

Beneath the weight of these offerings the market trembled and then broke sharply. Late in the afternoon the market recovered, but the powerful directors on railroads A and B; the organization of a competing line, and the passage of a resolution for enormous bond issues.

When James Blake went to bed late Saturday night it was after fifty hours of work without sleep. He had practically concluded one of the most decisive campaigns ever waged on the street. Before turning out the lights he signed the telegram received a few hours before, and his handsome face flushed with pleasure as he read: "Accept my congratulations on your superb handling of our campaign. Mr. Hawkins joins in situations and we drop your head."

"Our campaign," said Blake, half asleep. "That's the highest compliment. John must have won twice, and I'm a millionaire at last. Wonder if I can sleep. Here goes."

He dropped into a slumber deep and untroubled as that of a child.

James Blake found himself the Wall Street hero of the hour. He was acclaimed the young financial giant from the Pacific coast, a marvel, a hero who had driven his lance through the armor of famed knights and warriors. He drank deep of the glorious nectar of success, his eyes shone, and he could accept honors fairly won. While admitting that John Burt was the mastermind of the campaign, Blake freely admitted that it was his small part in its consummation. He had invested every dollar of his own. He had carried his stock to the bottom of the market and covered in time to profit on the reaction. In a week of furious conflict he had not made a mistake.

"I'm rather fond of these quarters," "You don't know," said Morris, as he showed the quiet and still street, the worth of a Lucullus. "Picked up some of the stuff abroad, and the governor contributed the rest of it. Hammam, serve us that up to-day."

The Indian servant bowed and moved noiselessly away. Morris opened his writing-table and looked at a number of unopened letters.

(To be continued.)

HE GOT THE PRIZE.
 Now Mr. Lee Does Not Want Another.
 Edward E. Lee, a Baltimore man, owner of a well known warehouse, is a field agent upon collecting. His friends tell this story on the road. He was collecting tags and coupons bearing premiums for some time when he got a notice of advertisement of a New Jersey firm that would accept any of their tags for a series of prizes, the first prize being a horse and runabout. Mr. Lee began to collect all the tags he could find, and he forwarded the requisite number, which he forwarded three days later he was notified that he had won the first prize, a fine following this letter came a tiny rocking horse. He sat rather and wrote and acknowledged receipt of the horse, who wrote, "You failed to include the runabout. In an early mail we received it. We have your letter, acknowledging receipt of the horse. As for the runabout, go chase yourself. Yours truly, 'Lippincott'."

SHIRTS MUST HAVE SHIRKIN.
 Red Flannel's Garment Wife Mistook for Coral Necklace.
 "Jim" Sullivan tells of a friend, a sufferer from rheumatism, who, hearing that he had a cure, ordered that red flannel worn next to the body was a remedy for that complaint. He purchased several underhirts made of that material and presented him that the goods were guaranteed igneary retailer. The friend said, "What do you think my wife said to me when I brought her these shirts yesterday, one of them or not? Well, sir, she smiled sweetly and asked: 'Why do you bring me your pink shirt?'—'New York Times.'"

Russia's Army. Library has been estimated that the total war footing of the Russian army after taking out all the reserves available for mobilization is more than ten times that of Japan. The soldiers are drawn from the ignorant and illiterate classes of the empire. Should Russia call out all her troops she will have 78,877 officers, 5,180,000 men, and 1,000,000 horses. Germany is the only nation that exceeds Russia in its military equipment.

Fortunate Town.
 Baron Heinrich Liebig, head of the firm of Johann Liebig & Co., who died recently in Frankfurt, left an estate worth £240,000 to the poor of Heilbronn, his native town. In addition, Liebig has given to his town his valuable collection of pictures (worth the same amount), his villa, his Frankfurt home, and some of his landed property. Heilbronn has been so honored, and altogether the town has inherited a sum of £200,000.

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