

Keller & Deisinger, Proprietors

107 Dearborn, Associate Editor

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Terms—\$1.50 Per Annum.

Millheim on the T. & C. S. C. R. R. as a population of 6-700, is a thriving business center, and contains the trade of an average radius of over eight miles, in which the Journal, has a large circulation, than all other country papers combined.

THE TUNNEL.

James Wainwright was foreman of engine No. 32 and Bill Blackford engineer. The latter had one good quality—continued faithfulness as a servant of the company. His enemies said the most powerful microscope could have discovered no other.

While he had not a friend among the hands, their dislike was not an open one. His strength was known to be almost phenomenal. He had once knocked down a horse with a blow of his fist.

James Wainwright and Bill Blackford, as fireman and engineer of the same locomotive, had kept up the necessary or convenient appearance of friendship, until it was whispered about that James would have chosen Wainwright for his husband "that was to be." Then Bill Blackford killed his wife, and carried his teeth together with an oath. It was no secret that he had "waited out" Jane herself.

After that, the men hardly spoke a word to each other. For miles on miles, day after day, they sped along the iron road, and secretly looked into each other's eyes. When Blackford glanced at Wainwright it was with a malignant smile.

One day, engine No. 32 ran into a freight train. No serious damage was done. It was found, however, that at the time of the accident, Blackford, engineer, was under the influence of liquor.

He was reduced from his position to that of fireman. He would have been discharged altogether, but for his long faithful service to the company.

James Wainwright was promoted to his position as engineer. Hearing of it Bill Blackford's eyes deepened, and his black eyes snapped.

It was a winter's night, cold and clear. Several of the railroad hands were seated round the station fire; among them Wainwright and Blackford.

"The east track needs repairing in the long tunnel," said the supervisor, "and the workmen have all gone home. What two among you will volunteer to attend to the matter?"

On the instant James Wainwright answered: "I, sir."

Immediately Bill Blackford added: "And me, too, sir."

More than one turned quickly and wonderingly toward the latter. It was not this man's custom to be obliging. One man drew Wainwright aside, and said:

"Blackford doesn't love you, Jim. I wouldn't go into that tunnel alone with him, if I was you. Let me go in your stead. He's got nothing against me."

"Nonsense!" said the other. "There is no danger; and even if there were, do you suppose I'd let him know that I was afraid of him by backing out?"

One of two men, as the volunteers started off together, proposed to go with them, but Blackford said, in a dogged way:

"Don't need no help."

In a more civilized manner, Wainwright echoed him, and the men fell back.

It was full ten minutes' walk to the mouth of the tunnel, but when they had reached it, neither had spoken a word. Now Blackford asked:

"Which side is it on?"

"East."

"Where?"

"About the middle of the tunnel."

"All right. Come on."

Into the darkness they plunged. They carried a light, but the impression of such a place is always one of intense blackness.

It was their object, if possible, to do the job before the train, due there in half an hour, should reach the spot.

No word was spoken after these few at the mouth of the tunnel. They worked silently and swiftly. An observer might have noticed that Blackford struck the rail viciously, and smiled as the sparks flew.

It was finished, and just then the rumble of the coming train was heard.

Between the track which they had just repaired—the one on which the cars would pass and the wall, the distance was only two or three feet.

Unconsciously, indeed, to stop

there as the train passed.

Wainwright was about to step on to the other track, when Blackford caught him by the wrist.

"Stay on this side!" he hissed.

"What for?" asked Wainwright, a little startled.

"'Cause I want you to. I want to know what it feels like to stand here; but I ain't going to do it alone."

"You can make the experiment if you please. As for me, I shall stand in the safest place, answered the other; and with a sudden jerk he released his wrist.

But on the instant, the gigantic Blackford caught him round the waist, and uttered in his ear:

"Steal the girl I love, will you? Worm yourself into my position as engineer, you bandit! I'll fix you!"

There was no mistaking the late glittering in the villain's dark eyes, nor the meaning of the words he had just uttered.

His purpose was to hold Wainwright there until the train was upon them, then to throw his victim in its way. The other understood now why this man had been so ready to accompany him. Perhaps he had been waiting for such an opportunity for months. Wainwright could see, by the dim light of their lamps, that there was a sullen, murderous resolution in the man's face.

"Bill Blackford, would you kill me?"

"No, no! The train will do that!"

"Do you not fear to do such a thing?"

"No!" thundered Blackford. "You slipped and fell as you were crossing the track, and the train struck you!"

Yes, that was the story the murderer would tell, and though something shook their heads, and even made their suspicions, they could prove nothing.

It was useless to cry for help. The only answer would be the mocking echo from the tunnel's walls.

Struggling? Ay, struggling, and rest he might till the last moment, but what avail would his strength be against that of this giant.

The rumble of the train was growing louder. In a few moments it would be upon them.

James Wainwright, by a quick movement, released his right arm, and struck wildly at the other; but the villain caught the descending blow, and with a laugh, plucked the arm again to his victim's side.

And now the train had entered the tunnel. The engine's flaming eye sent a fiery stream of light along the track. They were right in the path, but Blackford quickly stepped toward the wall, still holding Wainwright, where the train would strike him.

Now that the struggle commenced it was the only hope, and Wainwright fought with his desperation, that of a man with his life at stake.

Never sped the train and still Blackford held him on the track. He had, by some good fortune, freed his left arm.

The train was almost upon them. Tossing by chance his vest, something pricked Wainwright's arm. He remembered his mother had been sewing a rent in his vest that day, and had absent-mindedly left the needle, a long one, in the garment. In a moment he had it out.

The train was within a few yards of them.

Blackford's right arm was around Wainwright's waist. In a moment the other buried the needle in the villain's hand.

With a howl of pain the would-be murderer released his hold.

Wainwright wrench himself from the other arm and sprang across the track.

With an oath Blackford, followed, but to meet his death. In his hurry, his foot caught the rail and he fell.

James Wainwright saw the glare of the headlight full in his eyes; and the next instant Blackford was thrown at his feet mangled and dead!

MEXICAN OF RAGES.

Severe Charges Made by the Governor of Texas—13 years imprisonment of barbarity.

ST. LOUIS, January 13.—A dispatch from Houston, Texas, says Governor Hubbard has written a three-column letter to President Hayes on border affairs. He goes into the details of the causes of the Mexican raids and gives a history of the same for the last two years, including Cortina's capture of Brownsville in 1859. The Governor's specific charges are: First, it has been a deprecatory war; second, that custom house officers have been murdered, custom houses taken and robbed, post offices robbed and burned, hundreds of citizens killed and some tortured (William McManis, for instance, had his legs cut off and was forced to walk on the stumps);

Murdoch was chained, a narrow placard on him and was burned while in his own house within five miles of Corpus Christi; women have been made prisoners and subjected to treatment too horrid to mention; third, millions of dollars' worth of property have been taken from Texas owners, carried into Mexico and

sold in public markets; fourth, Mexico has furnished an asylum for the robbers and a place of deposit for their stolen goods; fifth, the Mexican Government has been notified many times by ours of the existence of these evils, but she has not restrained her citizens, and she refuses to permit the United States to break up the hostile bands which commit the atrocities, and has declared an attempt to do so a cause for war; sixth, she has refused to execute the extradition treaty by not surrendering raiders who were themselves enemies of mankind by breaking jail of Starr county, releasing prisoners therefrom and mortally wounding our peace officers, and by turning loose fugitives under indictment for murder in Texas and regularly demand ed by our Commissioners of Extradition; seventh, she has afforded an asylum to Indians and permitted them to use her territory to set on foot expeditions to invade the territory of the United States and to wage savage warfare upon the people of Texas, including within its space every age and sex; eighth, she has been captured in Texas, carried into Mexico and held as slaves.

Governor Hubbard asserts that Texas does not want war, but simply protection from Mexican violence. He charges that the San Elizario mob, who shot Howard McBride and Atkinson to death, were composed largely of Mexican citizens. He says Mexico should make amends for the crimes committed by her citizens.

A MODERN ARCADIA.

The Department of State has received a report on the social and political condition of the Dutch from the Minister of the United States to the Hague. As an illustration of the carelessness and slothfulness of the Dutch, the Minister says that there had not been a bank failure in Holland during the last forty years, and that the paper money of the banks during that time has been equal to gold. In regard to life-insurance companies there is no such thing as a failure on record, and, while the rate of insurance does not average more than one-half of 1 per cent., the companies are in the most flourishing condition, realizing 12 to 16 per cent. per annum. First-class railroad travel is only 1 cent per mile, and yet the roads pay good dividends. Puffering officials are scarcely even heard of, and when they shock the nation by turning up they are severely punished and forever disgraced. No free passes are granted, and managers and directors have no power to pass anybody over the roads free; all must pay the public rates. Dishonesty of any kind or failure in business means public dishonor, and utterly bars the dishonest from any future public consideration. Four millions of people live within an area of 20,000 square miles, a fact unprecedented in any other country, and all appear to be happy, prosperous and contented. The secret of this prosperity lies in the fact that all live within their income, and that industry and honesty are principles so firmly established that any outrage on the national characteristics.—Washington Correspondence Chicago Tribune.

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