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CHAPTER I. What was called a union revival was in progress at the principal meeting house in Broomfield, an old and gabled village in the southwestern part of Missouri, and the exhorters, vigorous advocates of a change of heart and...



"Boy, What Have You Got There?" or she walked upstairs without halting, and a few moments later a boy came down with a note in his hand. Bill Almes was standing near the door of the hallway, and as the boy came down the old man called to him and told him to stop a moment.

"My Dear Sir: Meet me at once in the parlor at the hotel on important business. Respectfully, POLLY LOPP." The old man took the note, looked at it, turned it over, looked at it again, folded it and returned it to the boy. "I don't understand it, but I reckon it's all right," he said. "Take it to him, and say, you watch him when he reads it, and come back here and tell me how he looked."

you think there's a bug on you? I have generally commanded a good deal of respect among women folks and you needn't laugh at me more than you can help, even if there's a bug on you, but what I want to get at and I'm going to get at it mightily sudden is this here. Before we can allow you to associate with us we must know something about you, and it is as little as you can do to tell us what we want to know."

"You have asked me for my confidence," she said, looking at him with demure mockery, "the precious confidence of an unprotected woman, and oh, how willingly would I give it to you but for the fact that I have not known you long enough. But I confess that you have invited my confidence by seeking to unbosom yourself." She looked at the old man's shirt and he puffed and huffed.

"What, and you are sure she ain't an anarchist? Look here, colonel, you ought to have gone a little slow in this matter. She might hoist the red flag at the head of your paper and then where would the country be?"

"You are right. I always take an active part in our revivals. But we hadn't done much this time and the minister closed today."

"I thought you were the man, and I am therefore a little surprised to hear you say 'I g'ad' after hearing you so fervently urge people to turn from frivolous ways."

"I g'ad, miss," the old man puffed, "you are something of a Parlar, I reckon. I've lived here all my life and have been mayor here for ten years and have wore my shirt this way every spell of hot weather, and you are the first one to tell me to button it; but dinged—excuse the expression, for it's the strongest I use—I say dinged if I don't do it. Now, miss, the shirt's buttoned, so go ahead with your rat killing, as the feller said."

"I have no rat killing to go on with, I merely ask you how you happened to come here."

"Yes, but blast my hide—excuse me for that expression, if you please, for it is about the strongest I use—you've got no right to ask me that question." "Well, then, you have no right to ask me how I happened to come here."

Advertisement for Quaker Oats, featuring an illustration of a man and a woman and the text: 'Children who are fed on Quaker Oats enjoy it. They also enjoy good health.'

Advertisement for Dr. Hacker's Nervous Diseases of Young Men, featuring an illustration of a man and the text: 'I have been a sufferer for so long a time and have spent so much money with so-called specialists and each time have been disappointed and misled.'

Advertisement for Pierce's Cure, featuring an illustration of a man and the text: 'I give the following statement unasked. I have been a sufferer for so long a time and have spent so much money with so-called specialists and each time have been disappointed and misled.'

Advertisement for N.A. Hulbert's City Music Store, featuring an illustration of a man and the text: 'STEINWAY & SON and DECKER BROTHERS KRANICH & BACK and Others'

Advertisement for Third National Bank of Scranton, featuring an illustration of a man and the text: 'Capital \$200,000 Surplus \$260,000 Undivided Profits \$50,000'

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Advertisement for ACADEMY OF MUSIC, listing various entertainment venues and shows.

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