THE GRAND SCHEMER

HE UNFOLDS A PLAN WITH MILLIONS IN IT TO A CREDITOR.

Major Crofoot Docsn't Succeed In Convincing His Wrathy and Skeptical Visitor, but Does Manage to Stand Him Off Once Again.

[Copyright, 1900, by C. B. Lewis.] As the man turned into the doorway leading up to Major Crofoot's office he had a look of determination on his face. As he ascended the well worn stairs his tread showed aggressiveness. As he banged the major's door open and entered he had the air of a creditor who'd get his money or carry away his pound of flesh. The major was in. He sat at his desk smoking a very short stub of cigar, but as the door opened he whirled with a bland smile on his face, and, rising, with both hands held out, he exclaimed:

"Well, now, but this is truly a coincidence-a coincidence! Come right in, my dear fellow-come right in!"

"Oh, I'll come in fast enough," answered the caller as he suited the action to the words and came to a halt



"AS THE WHEELS TURN A MOUTH ORGAN PLAYS."

in the middle of the room. "Now, then, no more skulking and dodging. You owe me \$10 borrowed money, and I want it right off the reel."

"My dear Mr. Shine," said the major as he took a last puff at his stub, "you formerly had an office next door. We became acquainted. You learned that I was temporarily embarrassed, and, sizing me up as an honest, ambitious man, who would ultimately overcome his bad luck, you kindly forced a \$10 bill upon me one day."

"I deny it?" shouted Mr. Shine. "Why, hang it, you were annoying me every day for a month before I let you have the money, and you told me a thousand lies to get it!"

"When you so kindly forced that money upon me," continued the major as he smiled and walked, "I said to myself that some day I would repay you a thousandfold. It was your trust,

vided with-a patent brake, rubber tires and a moshproof cover: also has revolving fans to keep the flies away. After the laby gets out of long dresses he can use the carriage as a tricycle. That's the invention, Mr. Shine- Organized on a capital of \$750,000, and shares to be sold at par. There's more than millions in it."

"I don't care a rap if there is. What I want is my \$10, and Kill give you just five minutes to shell out."

"I was going to offer you the secretaryship," softly observed the major, "but the salary will be only ten theusand a year What I shall offer you and what I was going to telegraph you about as you came in was the purchasing agency. We shall want a man to buy the milk and soothing sirup and see that they are pure. The salary will be at least \$15,000 per year, with perquisites thrown in. My dear man, you trusted me. This is your reward. Now, will you shake?"

"Not by a durned sight!" shouted Mr. Shine as he bobbed around. "None of this sort of rot will stand me off on my \$10. Do you want me to take it out of your hide?"

"And you can buy stock at par, my dear fellow-stock that will be worth 150 inside of four weeks. I have arranged for that. That stock will pay you at least 100 per cent. Invest \$10,-000, and you have an income of \$25,000 per year. That's what comes of trusting to the integrity of Major Crofoot. Is it enough? If not, just say so, and I'll add \$5,000 from my salary as president."

Mr. Shine deliberately removed his coat and vest and flung them on a chair.

"Or if you want to borrow \$10 for a day or two you can have it and welcome. I'll just step out and get it for you."

The major stepped, and Mr. Shine removed his collar, tie and cuffs. Then he spat on his hands and limbered up his arms and waited. He waited for half an hour-two hours. Then he got up and redressed himself and kicked over the chairs and desk and went out. The major had stood him off once more. M. QUAD.

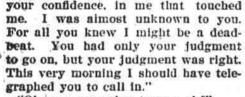
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Many Things of Which Its Graduates Are Ignorant.

The failure of the Sunday school as a means of giving a systematic and thorough knowledge of the Bible'is great. A teacher in-a city high-school asked an advanced class of 40 or 50 pupils, who had been drilled for years in the International Sunday School Lessons, how to proceed in order to reach Palestine, and not one could give the desired information. Then she asked the class in what part of the world Palestine is located, and no one knew.

That is a very good specimen of Sunday school teaching and can be paralleled anywhere by those who will take the trouble to ask a few questions. The ignorance of the Bible on the part of most persons of average intelligence is something amazing. The simplest questions will elicit no answer on the your wants. Come to see me. part of most such persons. That educated persons know something about the Bible may be assumed, but not unless the training goes much beyond the standard of the common school. Again and again it has transpired that those who were generally well informed, who were fairly well I educated and regarded as bright and clever, were almost totally ignorant of the Bible. Their Sunday school training had given them no knowledge of the book that was of any value, and, however much they might have read it since, it was to them a sealed volume. -Boston Transcript.





"Oh, you are going to pay, eh?"

"Major Crofoot always pays his debts, sir, and in some cases he returns \$100 for \$1. It will be so in this case. I could have paid you back long ago, but was waiting to make it a memorable occasion for you. The time has arrived. My dear fellow, let us shake hands."

"What for? You owe me \$10. You say you are going to pay it. I don't see the object of shaking hands."

"Yes, you truly cast your bread upon the waters," said the major as he paced the width of the room and looked into vacancy, "and I am pleased that your returns will be so great. Do you know I love a man who trusts to my honor and integrity? Let a man show his confidence in me. and I would sell my shirt for him. Yes, you kindly forced \$10 upon me. and"-

"And now you kindly force it back again," interrupted Mr. Shine. "It's no use dodging, old man. I'm here for my money and am going to have it."

"My dear fellow, you are one of the few who trusted to my integrity when I was down on my luck, and I therefore pass over your hard words now. You haven't heard of the Great Amerfcan Combination Baby Carriage company, have you?"

"No, sir."

"Because it is just being incorporated and we are taking the greatest care not to let anything get out until we are ready. My own creation, sir, and the biggest thing of the decade. If we don't make a million dollars out of it the first year. I shall be more than surprised., I wouldn't take half a million in cash for my chances."

"That's all blamed nousense!" shouted Mr. Shine as he began to bristle up. "I know you, you old soft soaper! You want to dodge that \$10, but I'll have it before I leave!"

"My own inventive idea, as I told ou, and it will astonish the world. you, and it will astonish the world. The baby entringe can be changed into a cradle, a hammock or a sied by mov-ing a lever. Good for summer or win-the, you see. Is provided with a sta-tionary milk bottle, a whistle and a mittlebox. Has an ice chest and a soothing skup department. As the wheels turn a mouth organ plays. ProThe World's Fault.

"There is one thing I like about you," said the intimate friend. "and that is your lack of vanity. You don't pretend to be the greatest actor the world has ever seen."

"No," answered Mr. Stormington Barnes thoughtfully. "but I would be if the world would only come to see me."-Washington Star.

In Scotland all licensed premises, except hotels, are closed Sundays, and one must be at least technically "a traveler" before he can obtain liquor.

White's Black Liniment-full size 250 White's Black Lures pain. bottle for 15c. It cures pain. J. E. Hoon.

Buy Your Drugs and

Goods from HOOD'S DRUG STORE.