

Swift Retribution

By E. J. Holt.

Many years ago, when I was a very small boy, I spent the most of my day-time with an old negro man, whose principal work was driving an ox cart, hauling on the plantation where I was living. He was one of the old time negroes, wonderfully industrious, very kind to me and polite and deferential to all the white folks—the kind of a negro that the boys of today know nothing of for that class of negroes has disappeared, leaving no successors.

I rode hundreds of miles on the old man's cart, behind one of the finest pair of oxen I ever saw and many wonderful tales he told me.

On one occasion, late in the evening, he began to whip and hurry his team and said "I want to get by the Douglass Old Place before night; that place is haunted and I am afraid to go along by there after sunset."

That remark of the old man got me very much interested and with a little effort I drew from him the following story.

Shortly after the Revolutionary war there had come a man and his wife into this settlement, who built a cabin and cleared a few acres of land around it at this place. They lived there for some years. Douglass, for that was the man's name, spent most of his time in the woods hunting and on the creeks fishing. He was a silent, grum sort of a man, with very little use for neighbors and was very seldom seen by any of the few people who then lived in this part of the country, and never without his rifle or fishing outfit, and not even on a fishing trip did he leave his gun at home. One evening, the old negro told me, there came to the Douglass cabin a man, a stranger travelling on foot with a pack on his shoulders. He appeared to be a pedler and asked permission to spend the night with the Douglass family, which was granted.

That night he informed Douglass that he was a trader and was on his way to the head waters of Neuse river, where he hoped to dispose of the goods in his pack and invest the proceeds and other funds he had with him, in otter and mink skins, which he would load on a small boat and float down the river to New Bern, where he should sell out at a splendid profit.

Soon the tired pedler was soundly sleeping after his hard day's tramp, with his heavy load, his pack of goods lying by his side. Some time after the pedler was asleep, Douglass loaded his ever-ready rifle, and with no witness save his wife, deliberately shot the pedler in the head, killing him instantly. He then searched the body and found quite a sum of money. Then he examined the package of goods which he happily found to be exactly what he most desired—powder, lead, fish-hooks, gun flints, and hunters' knives.

There was in the low grounds of the creek near by at the bottom of a high, steep hill, a noted quagmire or "cow mire," as the old negro called it, a marsh or bog of quick-sand covered over with rotting leaves and a thin layer of black mud, all saturated with water and so soft that no animal heavier than a squirrel or rabbit could pass over it with safety. Many a deer and cow had there found their last resting place, never to be seen or heard of again.

Douglass, after getting the pedler's money, carried the dead body through the woods to this quagmire and walking, on a fallen tree, which lay across it, dropped the body into the bog. Soon it had disappeared beneath the surface and he felt sure his crime was covered for all time and that he would never be brought to justice for his awful deed. He then returned to his cabin and at early dawn, took the money which he had found in his victim's pockets, and went out into the woods and buried it, no one knowing he had it but his wife and even she not knowing where he had buried it. The next evening he became uneasy, and was fearful that the woods or at the quagmire, which he might have left some trace through might lead to the discovery of the awful murder, and being superstitious and afraid to be alone so soon after his awful crime, he took his wife with him and together they followed the trail through the woods to the place where he had deposited the dead body. He walked in on the same fallen tree he used the night before, to the spot where he stood when he had shoved the poor pedler under the surface. He found it all right and no signs by which the crime could be discovered. In turning around to retrace his steps, he lost his balance. To avoid a fall head first, he attempted to jump to another log, missed it and struck squarely on his feet in that awful quagmire. He struggled, shrieked and prayed for help. His struggles only served to cause him to sink faster and faster. The deadly quick-

sands had a death grip on his feet and pulled him down deeper and deeper. His wife stood upon the bank and heard his fearful cries for help and looked upon his distorted feature as his body slowly settled in the quick-sands. Soon his cries were hushed as his head disappeared beneath the black soft mud, never to be seen again.

A short time after the death of Douglass, his wife related the particulars of the tragedy to some of the neighbors and then went away and was never heard of or seen again in that part of the country.

"There is one certain day in every year," said the old man, "if the right sort of a person is near the place of the quagmire after night, he can hear old Douglass' cries and prayers for help, repeated in all their original agony, just as he made them as he sank in the haunted cow mire."

About five years ago, Wesley Watson, a colored man, while digging up some pine stumps on Mr. John Gane's farm in Boon Hill township, near the place where Douglass lived unearthed a nice lot of silver money of Spanish coinage with dates to correspond with the time of the old man's story of the killing and robbing of the pedler. The supposition is that it was the money belonging to the murdered pedler.

THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS.

Lincoln's Oratorical Masterpiece, Delivered November 19th, 1863.

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

A Good Beginning.

Everything in later life depends upon how we began it. You cannot be successful in life if you haven't good health. To insure good health in later life it is necessary to start right. Many of life's serious ills are caused by constipation, indigestion and liver trouble. The best way to cure them in old or young is by the use of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. It is absolutely guaranteed to do what we claim, and if you want to try it before buying, send your address for a free sample bottle to Pepsin Syrup Co., 119 Caldwell Bldg., Monticello, Ill. It is sold by Hood Bros. at 50c and \$1 a bottle.

A Witness Scores.

An old plasterer is called upon to give evidence for the plaintiff. Counsel for the defendant tries to bully him.

"Have you ever been in prison?"
"Yes, twice."
"Ah! how long the first time?"
"One whole afternoon."
"What! And the second time?"
"Only one hour."
"And pray, what offense had you committed to deserve so small a punishment?"

"I was sent to prison to whitewash a cell to accommodate a lawyer who had cheated one of his clients."—London Opinion.

Pineules for the Kidneys are little golden globules which act directly on the kidneys. A trial will convince you of quick results for Backache Rheumatism, Lumbago and tired wornout feeling. 30 days' trial \$1.00. They purify the blood. Sold by Hood Bros.

"No one should drink water that hasn't been boiled for at least an hour." "You are a physician, I presume?" "Nope. Coal dealer."—Cleveland Leader.

"Do you think the color of a woman's hair has anything to do with her temper?" "Not now. So very little of it is her own."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Child's Laughter.

All the bells of heaven may ring,
All the birds of heaven may sing,
All the wells of earth may spring,
All the winds on earth may bring
All sweet sounds together;
Sweeter far than all things heard,
Hand of harper, tone of bird,
Sounds of woods at sundown stirred,
Welling water's winsome word,
Wind in warm wan weather.

One thing yet there is, that none
Hearing ere its chime be done,
Knows not well the sweetest one
Heard of man beneath the sun,
Hope in heaven hereafter;
Soft and strong and loud and light,
Very sound of very light
Heard from morning's rosiest height,
When the soul of all delight
Fills a child's clear laughter.

Golden bells of welcome rolled
Never forth such notes, nor told
Hours so blithe in tones so bold,
As the radiant mouth of gold
Here that rings forth heaven.
If the golden-crested wren
Were a nightingale—why, then,
Something seen and heard of men
Might be half as sweet as when
Laughs a child of seven.
—Algernon Swinburne.

Knowledge Notes.

India has 50 different languages. The coal output of Japan is increasing at a marvelous rate.

A man can live in excellent style in Japan for \$20 a month. A German army numbers over 5,000,000 men.

England's food importations average about \$16 for each inhabitant.

The statue of Peter the Great at St. Petersburg is the largest bronze in existence.

The annual mineral yield of the British Empire exceeds \$1,000,000,000 in value.

Taking all her possessions into consideration, there are six colored persons to every white in the British Empire.

The greatest known depths of the ocean are six miles, while the greatest mountain heights known are about five and a half miles.

It is said that electric locomotives can pull heavier trains at a greater speed than steam locomotives rated at the same power.

Of the races of the world, 600,000,000 are white, 700,000,000 yellow, 215,000,000 black, 35,000,000 brown, or Malayan, and 15,000,000 red, or North and South American Indians.

Stockland, Christiana, Berlin and London in the order named have the lowest death rates of all the cities of Europe.

England and Wales have three-quarters of a million paupers. In Great Britain there are nearly two million trades unionists.

A ton of Dead Sea water will yield 187 pounds of salt when evaporated. About 87 per cent. of the farmers of Canada preside over their own farms.

The gifts of John D. Rockefeller to the Chicago University now total over \$25,000,000.

Australia covers 26 times as much area as the British Isles, but its population is less than that of London.

In London there are about 1800 charitable agencies, dispensing \$50,000,000 annually.

North America supplies more than three-fifths of the world's consumption of copper.

The electric furnace is capable of attaining a heat of 7200 degrees. This is a temperature that will melt almost every solid known. In comparison with this heat a red-hot bar of iron would be called cold.

Five hundred American Sunday papers would make 6,000,000 volumes of 500 pages each.

The State woods of Germany cover 10,000,000 acres and give employment to 100,000 persons.

The cigarette appetite of Korea's 20,000,000 natives amounts to 840,000,000 smokes per day.

The smallest coin in use is coined by the Portuguese Government. It is worth 3-100 of a cent.

The new electric railroad mileage built in 1908 in the United States, Canada and Mexico was 1258 miles, computed as single track road. New York State takes the lead in mileage with 184 miles, closely followed by Ohio with 171 miles. Pennsylvania is accredited with 114 miles, Texas with 91, and Illinois with 84, while Wisconsin, Colorado and Indiana come close together, having 73, 68 and 66 miles, respectively.—Philadelphia Record.

Woods Liver Medicine in liquid form regulates the liver, relieves sick headache, constipation, stomach, kidney disorders and acts as a gentle laxative. For chills fever and malaria. Its tonic effects on the system felt with the first dose. The \$1.00 bottle contains 2 1/2 times as much as the 50c size. Sold by Hood Bros.

Men are so contrary that if their wives want them to stay out late they probably wouldn't do it.—Chicago News.

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on the positive guarantee that if it does not give satisfaction we will return the entire amount of money paid us for it.

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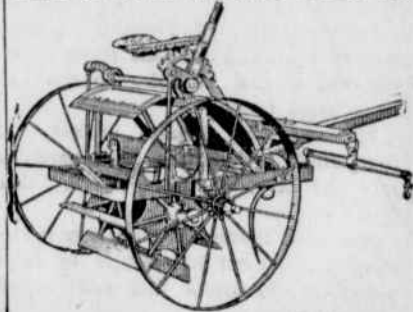
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will give you all the light, water and power you need for your farm or country place, at a surprisingly low cost. Engine can be left running for hours after starting without attention, and stopped by pressing a button. The safest, most convenient and healthful light known. It is restful to the eyes and does not consume the life-giving oxygen in your rooms as do lamps or gas. Same engine runs pumps and other machinery. Engine operates on gas, gasoline, kerosene or distillate.

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