

HOW THE STATE WAS PLUNDERED AS A STEP IN THE SAGE FORTUNE OF THE SAGE FORTUNE

HISTORY OF THE GREAT AMERICAN FORTUNES

By Gustavus Myers. Author of "The History of Tammany Hall," "History of Public Franchises in New York City," Etc.

PART III. The Great Fortunes from Railroads. Copyright, 1909, by Gustavus Myers.

CHAPTER XIV. MORE DETAILS OF THE SAGE FORTUNE.

In the preceding chapter we have seen how, by corruption and fraud, Congress, in 1854, passed an act the wording of which was so surreptitiously altered as to give nearly one hundred thousand acres of public land in Minnesota direct to the Minnesota and Northwestern Railroad Company.

Gifts of Fourteen Million Acres. But the good behavior of Congress was of the briefest duration; a mere ebullition which served duty as something with which to blind the nation.

Robbed into Insolvency. The thefts were carried on with such rapid assiduity that in about a year after the company had become chartered, its treasury had become empty and the railroad was plunged into insolvency and, in 1858, foreclosed.

Creditors Cheated Out. One of these bondholders, Edward C. Hopkins, with a wonderful trust in the equity of law, bestowed himself to see whether he could not collect on some coupons of bonds that he owned of the old Minnesota and Pacific Railroad.

Stolen Millions Loaned in Usury. A money lender on a great scale Sage became; he invented a special system of usury—the "put" and "call" system, the intricacies of which we shall not attempt to describe.

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ly susceptible nature, incapable of passing a request. An act was passed authorizing a \$5,000,000 issue of bonds—called the "Minnesota State Railroad Bonds"—to be handed over to the railroad companies in that state. Not all of this amount was issued; the total sum turned over to the railroad companies under this special act was about \$2,750,000.

The Plundering of Minnesota. What master mind was behind all of this? Russell Sage's. Rarely did he appear too prominently in the foreground, but he was the soft-treading man who, as was later revealed, chiefly profited from the operations of the Minnesota and Pacific Railroad Company.

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MEANWHILE SAGE HAD MET GOULD IN TROY, and had removed to New York City. "The two men," says the wife-fusive biographer heretofore quoted, "made an impression upon each other, which afterward deepened into a friendship famous in financial history." Famous or infamous, whichever way you prefer to view it, valuable working part the twain made; Sage, crafty, sly and exclusive; Gould, supplying the public au-

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SCENES FROM LONDON.

From the Elephant to Frying-Pan Alley.

By RUTH BERKELEY.

III. Poorly is unskilled labor, paid the fathers, like the children, are...



IN A NOOK ON WATERLOO BRIDGE.

len coats, cheap yellow furs, purple skirts and sailor hats that they wear winter and summer, and that seem to be the badge or respectability among the costermongers.

ANTIQUITY OF HATS

Just now, when a well known New York pulpit orator has been inveighing against unwieldy monstrosities of female headwear, and when the law...

thet a mark of their class that never even though his circumstances should change, could the cockney detach himself from that litter, and lose himself in the upper circles.

"Oh," I said, "the apple got hit, but why did he hit the apple?"

OUR DAILY POEM

IT IS NOT ALWAYS MAY. By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The sun is bright, the air is clear.

MOTHERS AND BABES

The following are two interesting proposals pending in the British Parliament: The memorandum prefacing the Infant Life Protection bill points out that while it is felony punishable by penal servitude for life to procure miscarriage, and murder to kill a fully born child, to destroy a child while it is being born, and before it is fully born is no offense whatever.

she gives the children wee nips from her glass until gradually they become accustomed to the taste of it, so that long before they are men and women habit and inheritance have done their work.

me Westminster loomed in the distance and Big Ben looked down from his seat in the tower as contentedly as if he were a common citizen sitting near me in a rose garden.

COLORADO'S COAL FIELDS.

According to M. R. Campbell, of the Geological Survey, more than 10,000 square miles of Colorado contain workable coal beds; 4,180 square miles may contain workable coal, and 2,820 square miles contain coal under heavy cover.

WHOLE BATTALION OF JEWS.

The London Times is informed that among the armies of the Young Turks there is a battalion of Jewish volunteers, well armed and equipped and wearing the regular uniform.

INCREASING DIVORCE.

Twenty years ago an investigation by the Department of Labor showed that 228,716 divorces had been granted in the United States between 1887 and 1888, and that divorces were increasing two and one-half times as fast as population.

Just what the value of a workingman has been ascertained by Miss Crystal Eastman in her book on "Work Accidents," to be published by the Russell Sage Foundation, and used by the American Association for Labor Legislation in its fight against the present inadequate Employers' Liability law.

WORKINGMEN'S LIVES ARE CHEAP.

According to Miss Eastman, the value of a workingman, based on 27 industrial accidents in Pittsburgh, measured by the capitalistic standard of dollars and cents, reaches the following figures: Loss of an eye from nothing to \$300. Loss of an arm from nothing to \$100. Loss of a leg, from nothing to \$225.

than she can, is also making a sacrifice which she will chafe under in case the marriage fails to satisfy her affections.

The intellectual ferment of our time weakens the grasp of the social institution upon the innocent individual. The voice of authority, whether it appeals to precedent, to doctrine, or to Holy Writ, is little heeded.

THE CALL PATTERN

A particularly stylish model for the separate skirt, or as part of an entire costume, is here illustrated. The material used in its development is heavy white linen, simply stitched.

THE KIND HE WANTED.

Little Tommy Whacken was taken by his mother to choose a pair of knickerbockers and his choice fell upon a pair to which a card was attached, stating: "These can't be beaten." Current Literature.

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