

THE KIDS HIT THE ROAD

Boys Who Crossed the Continent and Underwent Many Mishaps.

"BATTER DE HOUSE, YOU GITS DOUGH"

Observations of the Great Road Tourists on Town and Country—Tough Experiences—Concluded in Expressive Phrases.

"You bet we seen de fair. Wo? Go to Chicago and come back wid never a peep at de show? Hides a'bin baggage...

Prisco Kid leaned back in a chair and blew cigarette smoke through his nose, while he looked about for approval. He got what he wanted, for the room was filled with boys of his general make-up.

"You battered de house for a lump? Well, what does that mean?" There were eight in the group, and it is not pleasant to have sixteen eyes focused upon you.

"Youse de best on talk, Frisco, go ahead," suggested one of the others, and Frisco went ahead. "I got de first place, I introduce de kids. Deers the Napkin Kid, McEnty Kid, Kid Jim, State Kid and Eddy Kid, Kid Fin, Mickado Kid and me. We started out four months ago. We heard we could get work in Nevada, but we couldn't, it is getting to be an artistic piece of work, and Mr. Hibbard is not in the circle of artists.

"I got ditched in Nevada," interrupted Kid Fin, "and was walkin' crost the desert dead tired, we'd met at the Fair. You know Charlie, 'Hullo, Charlie,' says I. 'Hullo yourself, Kid,' says he. 'Wat de devil are you doin' here?' He gave me some stuff, an' I hunted up de rest of the gang. Day was played out, and the truck, an' we got some punk, wat we much else to get, Charlie's a sport."

It may be explained that punk is bread or something else that drops into the stomachic void gracefully without being exactly a delicacy.

When we got to Reno," resumed the Frisco Kid, "I was chucked into jail. Boss place. Three squares a day. Give me ten days. Three off for behavin' and don chased us out of town. Had to run the what you call 12 gauntlet, yes; had to run that, and it was a daisy.

"Got to Cheyenne. Jeff Carr's marshal, and he gives you what you need wid a big sapling club. Ten minutes to leave town. Battered the fort and got a lunch. Got some soldier clothes and a cap; had lost me own of a blin' bagger. 'Met Tobin somewhere; you know Tobin; great people. Tobin he come down with a kerplunk or two. Met Meyers, de Meyers & Kohn at Larminie. He wouldn't give up, said he was down to cases himself. But he handed out some sausage and limburger.

"De worst thing about Nevada," said Mickado (and that's what he spells it), "is that you can't shoot no snipes, and cigarettes is agin de law. You buys your tobacco and dey slings you into cage of cigarette paper so's you stop on it; can't even give it away to you. Nevada a hard game. I got froze up in a tool box and dey like to never get me tawed."

"As I was a sayin'," resumed Frisco Kid once more, "As I was a sayin', now Mickado took the floor, I got to Cheyenne and got out. But don't forget de Mormons. De route from Salt Lake to Ogden is great. Dem Mormons gives you milk, and honey sometimes. We you batter 'em an' dey won't see it, all you takes a lump anyhow, and it's all de same.

"Down among de Nebraska hoosiers it's pretty easy. Sometimes dey chases you out of town and may be gives you ten days, but farmers aint on, and you batters 'em till you can't rest. One bloke was driving a lot of cattle and he said he wouldn't give me any stuff, but I could come along and drive a team. Never had a line in my hand before, s'elp me, and I drove them mustangs all over the bloomin' prairie. That night we went into camp near Gortenberg, an' I went to the cattle man, 'Let's have some dough.' 'Wat's de matter wid bread?' says he. So I told him I was going to town. He said all right, and he'd hang a lantern on a pole so's I'd not get lost coming back, an' I borrowed his gun and soaked it for three cases and took to de road again. And comin' back after bein' clean to New York blowed if I didn't see de same guy. I waves me hat at 'im from under the car, but he doesn't see me."

"At Ogden de bulls is on de lookout," said the Jap Kid. "They catches you and you goes to the gravel pit. One day some of us went up the creek, an' we was stow. Long comes a couple of stiffs. 'Hi there,' they says, 'the bulls is comin', and we cuts and de stiffs gets away wid de show.

"A bull? Oh, he's a cop, and a stiff is a tramp wat won't work and don't carry a blanket. A tramp wat carries a blanket is a 'gay cat' and a 'stiff' does 'im up every chance."

Frisco Kid could keep silent no longer. "Omaha's a queer layout," he said. "Lot of us got pulled there, and the old Dutch judge he ast us was we guilty or not guilty. 'Not guilty,' of course, we said, and he said, 'You a liar. Ten days.' I didn't know Cheyenne much, and when I climbed up de road I was tired and went to sleep in a park. Bimeby a bull comes along and he whangs me over the soles wid a club. 'Wat er you doin' here?' he says. 'I just come from New York to see de fair,' I says, 'an' an' an' an' money from me folks.' So he didn't run me in, an' after seeing de fair I went on east. Dem Columbus guards is a terror. Well; McEnty Kid can play de mouth organ and Jap there can do a clog, an' I can pass a hat, and we'd live high sometimes.

"Say, dese Chicago stiffs is dead cunnin'. Dey sleep wid their knees up and feet flat on de ground, so's de bulls can't whang 'em. De bulls carries big clubs, and when you get a bill you stop dreamin'."

"Recalllek w'en we got ditched off the limited on 't'other side of Cheyenne? Station is far apart, and we was mighty hungry. 'In that Mickado. 'I sees a man at a sidetrack wid a lot o' empty

cars he'd just got to ship cattle to Chicago, an' I battered him for a feed, and he said bein' as it was only one I could go to de cook wagon, 'I see miles away. De rest of de gang was leavin' low. We found de wagon an' told de cook we was from his boss and he was to feed us, and you never saw such a pile of grub. Well, I was dyin' for a smoke, and just lifted a package of terbacker and we went back to the water tank. Pretty soon along came a lot of cowboys, pretty hot, lookin' for de terbacker. We was on top o' de tank an' you kin bet we roosted high, an' we drilled out mighty quick. Dem cowboys would o' done us, sure.

Frisco Kid was wiggling in his chair. "Talk about hard times here," he exclaimed. "Why, it isn't a marker to New York. People there sleep out doors, men and women, old women. But we got along all right. I'd work the decks, and I'd say: 'Please, mister, let me carry your valise? It's a case o' got to, and he'd give me two bits. You can get a square there for 10 cents."

"I thought I'd find Frisco Kid down at Steve Haddock's place on de Bowry," said the State Kid, "an' I did." "Isn't Steve a hard lookin' mug?" asked Frisco.

"As hard as you'll find," acquiesced the companion of his tour. "The boys' character is of their experiences. They told of Philadelphia and the old lady who gave two straight-ups and a bowl of soup for 10 cents; of Baltimore, with its old and shabby houses and its distressing scruples about what they called 'integers.' Cincinnati seems to have pleased them. 'There isn't a better town than Cincinnati' in the United States," said Frisco Kid, and the rest gave assent.

The return trip was full of adventure—of being ditched, of being in jail, of begging, of hibernating—for these young pilgrims do not respect the tenets of society in many matters. "Chicago was good when we came back," vouchsafed one. "Lots of Californians there. Battered a Californian and you gits dough."

George A. Hibbard writes some pretty tales in the new volume, "Nowadays and Other Stories." The American short story is getting to be an artistic piece of work, and Mr. Hibbard is not least in the circle of artists. The present volume is quite a number of them, published by Harper & Co. for sale by the Meigs Stationery Company, Omaha.

"The Duty of the Community to Medical Science" is the subject of a brief pamphlet by George W. Gould, A. M., M. D., in which the writer dilates on the importance of bequests to medical institutions in connection with higher institutions of learning. George W. Gould, A. M., M. D., Philadelphia.

Considerable light is shed upon our history in the September number of Magazine of American History, just out, "Some of Washington's Kin," "Yucatan Since the Conquest," "The Diary of Colonel Elisha Porter of Hadley, Mass.," among the subjects of the Magazine of American History Company, 120 Broadway, New York.

C. L. Allen has issued a book which will be of value to all lovers and growers of hills and other flowers. The book is "The History of the Plant," "Bulbs and Tuberosities," "The History, Description, Methods of Propagation and Complete Culture of the Various Families of the Family of the Plant," published by Orange Judd & Company, New York City.

"Oscar Peterson, Ranchman and Ranger," is a story said to be for boys. In what way the perusal of the book would benefit a boy we are not advised. Stories of life with Indians, blood and marvellous events are back numbers, and if authors of "stories for boys" are not able to find a subject outside of this sort of stuff, they would better if they saved their time. Henry Willard French is the author of this special book, whose publisher is D. Lothrop, Boston.

"Bancroft and Bankruptcy," a pamphlet issued by the Denver Republican containing a series of articles touching the silver question that have appeared from time to time in the columns of that journal. It argues strongly for an American policy on finance as well as in everything else, and wishes an able presentation of the subject of free silver. W. F. Robinson & Co., Denver, Colo.

Oliver Optic has recently added another to his famous "Blue and Gray" series of stories for boys. Oliver Optic is always a story with boys, and justly. His stories are full of a spirit of heroism which is not too exaggerated, and he is a writer of a latent nobility in the character of a young man in his teens. The present tale is entitled "Fighting for the Right," and is fully up to the standard of his other stories. It is a story of a young man's adventures in the trials and tribulations of a young man in his teens. For sale by Meigs Stationery Company, Omaha.

The approach of the holidays is suggested by the pretty book, "All But One," that comes like a sunny smile to stir the hearts of our fondling kings and queens of the nursery. Gaubling between the lines of the book a number of short stories interspersed with charming pictures and delightful lithographs. These tales are in both English and the very best writers for children and the print and artistic taste displayed in the make-up give it a value above the pleasure it must yield. Tappan, Evell & Sons, New York.

"History of Slavery in Connecticut" is the subject of one of the Johns Hopkins University studies in historical and political science, by Herbert C. Steiner, Ph. D. Beginning with the enslavement of Indians in the period from 1636 to 1774 it traces colonial legislation on the subject of the slave, and the trials concerning slaves in those days. The treatment of slaves during the revolution and subsequent legislation touching the subject down to the year 1800 is an important contribution to American history.

The Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore. The twelfth annual session of the Nebraska State Pharmaceutical association must have been a lively one if the published proceedings in any city. The society met at Nebraska City, with an unusually large number of delegates in attendance. The report before us contains a number of papers read at the yearly gathering, some of which are of more than ordinary interest, from the fact that a prize was offered for the best essay on the subject of "The Duties of the Doctor."

Belle Heilman of Tecumseh captured the first prize. The paper is witty and practical, and contains a number of bright points as well as an experienced eye. Copies of the report may be had by addressing Lanolis Heilman, Tecumseh, Neb.

"Camp Fire Sparks," by Captain Jack Crawford. "The Fire Scout," is a brief collection of poems reviving memories of soldier life during the war. The verse is extremely simple and unpretentious, while expressive and reflecting just the sentiment of patriotism that reigns in the heart in those days of doubt and danger. Dr. Crawford has hosts of friends in Nebraska and southern Dakota, where he has spent much of his time in the early days, and those who will recognize in the lines a reflection of what is in the man himself. Charles H. Kerr & Co., 175 Monroe street, Chicago.

"Blue and Gray" is out in a new dress, much improved in appearance since discarding its former gaudy cover. A galaxy of southern beauties ornaments one page as a frontispiece and it is made the subject of an interesting article. A large variety of delightful sketches and short illustrated articles will be found in the book, and the men and events in which blue and gray participated. In its composition and pictorial it is a typical best of war times and stands out as the best of this class of literary periodicals. Patriotic Publishing Company, Philadelphia.

The North Star State is represented in a very effective manner through the pretty pamphlet just issued, "Minnesota: a Brief Sketch of its History, Resources and Advantages," published by authority of the Minnesota Board of World's Fair Managers. Its illustrations and descriptive matter are exceedingly interesting and comprise an altogether unique presentation. An excellent map of the state is attached and coupled with the array of facts and information brought together forms a useful compendium of the state and a valuable immigration document. George N. Lamphere, committee, Moorhead, Minn.

The Gotheburg System of Liqueur

"Traffic" is the title of a 250-page pamphlet, issued as the fifth special report of the commission of labor, and is published by the American Federation of Labor. It is a very extensive and elaborate review of the experience of Norway and Sweden in the management and control of the liquor traffic. In these countries this traffic has been a source of contention for more than three centuries and for the past quarter of a century they have had the advantage of a long and satisfactory basis of control. For this reason the facts and conclusions derived from this work will be of inestimable value to those interested in the subject. Carrolls, D. Right, commissioner of labor, Washington, D. C.

"Out of the Sunset Sea," by Abner W. Tourgee, is a narrative of the voyage of Christopher Columbus in the language of a fellow shipmate. This production would have been very readable if it were in a sketch, but it is a long and monotonous story, strung through some 450 and pages with dull characters, lacking that human interest that gives the reader a sense of the reality of the events which the conditions of life among these progressive aborigines is well represented. Their homes, picturesque woodland surroundings, their customs, their arts and crafts, and several family groups, as also a large portrait of their chief, are presented in the most stylish and artistic manner, and the very advanced and interesting account of the wonderful advance toward civilization the Indian has made in this section. Printed at the United States census printing office, Washington.

The Bureau of the American Republics has just issued an important and valuable document on the subject of a large variety of facts and reports concerning this rich but yet sparsely settled country. While the information is in many respects deficient through the absence of properly organized bureau of statistics, it is a great step forward toward forming an estimate of the country rich in gold, silver, tin, copper, Bolivia, and other minerals, and European country except Russia, and her population of about 2,000,000 is divided, about four-fifths, of Spanish blood, and the remainder of nearly a million domesticated Indians and a quarter of a million Indians in savage state. Bureau of American Republics, Washington, D. C.

"How to Make Banks Safe" is made a prominent theme in the current number of Rhodes' Journal of Banking, and it is suggested that in the form of money certificates in the form of money be permitted in financial emergencies subject to a tax that would enforce their withdrawal when the emergency is over. The lesson may yet be learned that just as legislators may obstruct as well as enact laws, so money may be used as a means of money damnable than that of legislators, for the act of living is governed by commerce, independent and in defiance of all other governments. Bradford, Rhodes & Co., 75 Wall street, New York.

Volume 5 of the Transactions and Reports of the Nebraska State Historical Society (Lincoln, Neb.) comes to us much in the form of a convenient and attractive volume. The anniversary of the admission of Nebraska as a state into the union. It puts into permanent form the papers and addresses read at the public celebration in Lincoln and reports. Dr. Victor Kosowater's article on the constitutional development of Nebraska, which appeared in the November edition of the "Nebraska," is particularly interesting, and is particularly rich in materials relating to the history of the state.

"Tables for the Writing of Exercises in the Seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth grades, and in the high school," is a book of tables, scales, triads and chords of the seventh and ninth, with their inversions and natural harmonies, and a complete table of the act of living is governed by commerce, independent and in defiance of all other governments. Bradford, Rhodes & Co., 75 Wall street, New York.

"A Happy Family" is the title of the series of colored lithographs of a group of dogs appearing as protagonists in "Sunny Tales for Snowy Days." On the outer board cover the artist seems to have fairly outdone himself in the execution of the illustrations. The juvenile eye. Between delightful stories and lovely pictures it is hard to tell which will afford more pleasure to the young folk. "Cupboard Love" looks as rich and dainty as a genuine water color, representing a little girl carving meat at the table, with two dogs, one leaning on her shoulder and the other in her chair with his forepaws resting on the table, both eyeing the plate in an appealing manner. The very best art is put into the work and it will be well worth by thousands of little ones. Raphael Tuck & Sons, New York.

By far the finest memorial of the fair thus far issued is "The Book of the Fair," by Hubert Bancroft, the third number of which is now out. The work when completed will comprise twenty-five numbers, representing 1,000 imperial folio pages, 13x16 inches, printed on the best paper obtainable. It is a masterpiece of the art of the book. The illustrations, of which there are to be no less than 2,000, are the work of the best artists toward making the most fitting resume and memorial of the greatest of all exhibitions. The work begins with a chapter on the history of the fair, and continues with a view, every characteristic group, all special events and notable personages are pictured on its pages, and the entire work is a complete and comprehensive production of the kind. The Bancroft company, Auditorium building, Chicago.

The governments and Politicians Ancient and Modern," by Charles Marcotte, is a study on republican and democratic forms of government as inferior to monarchies. Just at present our country is troubled with that issue and there is no danger of any harm from the work; in fact, any thoughtful reader would lay it down with a smile, convinced that the author's intention is to undermine the major share of attention from thinkers today. The writer all through is redundant in words, but displays a lack of requisite acumen giving the impression of a school boy's debate. Charles Marcotte, 175 Monroe street, Chicago.

One of the leading contributions to the current Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette is a dissertation on "Some Forms of Food Adulteration," by R. H. Chittenden, Ph. D., dealing with the use of food adulterants of the color of canned vegetables. The writer is candid enough to admit that not the slightest trace of food adulteration is to be found in the infrequent quantities employed, but hurls on its evil as an adulteration. Commercial demagogues has plundered the public mind and created a false impression of adulteration. Statements about adulterated goods have been persisted in that are false and are only too ready to drive the public and legislators have been adulterated to shape laws with the sole aim of driving out of business the smaller rivals of some of our great monopolies. The law of adulteration the public mind and scare them into paying higher prices than necessary for their wants. Let the professional medical agitator begin to purify himself and cease to be the tool of current jobbers and give the public a rest about adulteration. It has enough quackery in its ears already, and legislation has enough to do to prevent any more of it and keep its own hands from evil. The Gazette Publishing Company, 1215 Broadway, New York.

In his "Outlines of Economics" (New York: Hunt & Eaton), Prof. Richard T. Ely of the University of Wisconsin has amplified and broadened into a more comprehensive system what was merely sketched in his earlier work on Political Economy. The new work follows the same liberal lines as the old, but is arranged upon a more systematic plan. Dr. Ely divides economics into private and public economics, thus showing the influence of his German training, instead of adopting the English terms of political economy and public finance. The book is largely a compilation of the author's studies upon special topics published separately and shows his wide acquaintance with the advanced economic literature of the day. He does not, however, accept in toto the views of the most recent writers, but modifies many of them in a way indicating the expenditure on his part of much time and thought. A most useful feature consists in the very full bibliographies and suggestions of topics for deeper study. The "Outlines" is designed for the classroom, and for this purpose cannot fail to prove most useful and stimulating.

The eighth annual convention of Christian Workers in the United States and Canada will meet November 9 to 16 in Atlanta, Ga. This gathering of the Christian workers in all scope and unconfined in character. Rev. David Fennessy, for many years president of St. Mary's college, Louisville, one of the most noted Catholic international institutions of the south, has been called to Rome to become vice general of the Order of Resurrectionists.

There were 900 baptisms in the New York Baptist churches last year. In all the churches but three the large congregations are in the evening. The average Baptist congregation of the city is about 125. Only three churches have assistant pastors and fourteen have women missionaries. About 52 per cent of the baptisms are from the Sunday school.

Rev. John C. Fyvie, at the World's Evangelical congress in Chicago, stated that he had increased his evening congregation from 200 to more than 700, and that in the morning service and given new life to the whole church organization, by following four rules, viz: (1) good church music; (2) the singing of hymns; (3) the use of the Holy Ghost in the service; and (4) a short sermon of from fifteen to twenty minutes.

Miss Helen Reid, who was recently ordained a deaconess by Bishop Nichols in St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal church, San Francisco, is the first lady to receive that elevation of a woman to the order was merely a return of woman to the place she occupied when in the upper chamber at the time when the Holy Ghost came upon the apostles. He hoped that Miss Reid's example would soon be followed by others.

Eight little negro boys got on a Niagara street car at the corner of Vermont street about 7:30 o'clock last night, says the Buffalo Courier. They had been told to get on the car to rehearse something or other (they were choir boys) and they were then on their way to St. Paul's. The women in the car told them and asked them all sorts of questions. They all talked willingly, except one little fellow, who was as black as coal, and who seemed to be the butt of the other seven.

"So you all sing?" asked one of the women. "Yes," answered three of the boys at the same time. "Then you are regular little blackbirds." "Oh, no, ma'am. Blackbirds don't do nothing but chirp, in a canny way, and we don't sing." "An' I'm a musical bird," said another, and each boy told what kind of a bird he was, until the eighth one, the butt before mentioned, was the only one who did not answer a question. "And you're kind of a bird are you, my little fellow?" asked the woman. "Deed, ma'am," he answered, "I specs I'm a chicken. I gets it in the neck so often."

Time to Retire Them.—Little Dick—Auntie says all this pretty things called bric-a-brac used to be in de r'lar use. I wonder w'en they went out of fashion and got stuck way up on the mantelpiece and the top of the chest of drawers. I do not know whether it was goin' to be boys.

Mamma—Harry, didn't I hear you teasing George Jones? Harry—Yes. "Was that doing unto others as you would have them do unto you?" "Yes, I just wanted him to try it on me, 'cause I knew I could lick him in a minute."

Auntie—You should ask to be excused when you leave the table. Little Nephew—Should I? I thought from the time I was a little boy that I was to be excused when I left the table. I do not know whether it was goin' to be boys.

Mother—Horror! How did you tear your clothes? Small Boy—Trying to get over a barbed wire fence without tearin' 'em.

Among examples of "pious sentiments missing their mark," the following beats all competitors that I have come across. It is said to come from a tombstone in the North-west cemetery. I do not know whether it is new, but it is good enough to bear repetition: Sacred to the Memory of The Rev. Who, after twenty years' unremitting labor as a Missionary, was accidentally shot by his Kitimang.

"Well, done, thou good and faithful servant!"

Rev. D. H. L. Wayland tells this story on himself: "On a recent occasion the lambs, according to his feeble light, preached the gospel in a village which is enriched, illuminated and sanctified by the presence of the Holy Spirit. With such capacity as he possessed of he endeavored to preach to the people about God, Christ, the immortal soul and the eternal life, and the result was a most interesting and profitable service. The pastor's remarks were very entertaining."

It is related of John Wesley that on one occasion he was riding along a highroad when he saw a man kneeling by the wayside breaking stones. "Ah!" cried the great preacher, "I wish I could break the hearts of stone hear me as easily as you are breaking those stones." The man looked up and replied: "Did you ever try to break them on your knees?"

"Did you ever," said one preacher to another, "stand at the door after your sermon and see the people as they pass out?" "I did once—a pause and a sigh—but I'll never do it again!"

"Don't you think Rev. Still's sermons are awfully narrow?" "I think they are, but, goodness, he makes up for it, I should think, in the length."

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