

BETZVILLE TALES

Rev. Ebenezer Spillgath and Moses

By Ellis Parker Butler
Author of 'Pigs is Pigs' Etc
ILLUSTRATED BY PETER NEWELL

Rev. Ebenezer Spillgath of Betzville is in serious trouble with his congregation at present, and it all goes to show that one should not be too forward in the good work of smiting the wicked. It is all right to smite the wicked, for that is all the wicked are good for, but any one desiring to smite should be careful not to pick out a wicked that will smite back.

When Purdon's Three-Ring Circus and Unmentionable Great Menagerie was in town about a month ago, it happened to be here on Thursday, and Rev. Ebenezer was greatly angered to find that when he opened prayer-meeting that night he had the meeting entirely to himself, and he decided that as the Egyptians—so to speak—had spoiled his meeting, he would wreak vengeance on them and spoil the Egyptians. As the circus had moved on to Billingsville that night, Rev. Ebenezer harnessed up his mare Rebecca, and drove over, and on the way over he made up his mind how he would spoil the Egyptians. Rev. Mr. Spillgath is noted in this county as one of the most progressive and slick horse traders on earth, and he decided he would spoil the Egyptians in a horse trade. He was not aware, at that time, he says, that the Egyptians were just spoiling to be spoiled.

When Rev. Ebenezer returned to



Many Said It Was as Good as a Circus.

Betzville Friday evening he no longer drove Rebecca, but a white horse, and he wore a smile that informed one and all that he felt he had successfully spoiled the Egyptians and that he had spoiled them good and hard. Many were the congratulations he received from Uncle Ashdud Clute and other prominent citizens of Betzville, and he announced that it was his intention to call the horse, hitherto bearing the sinful name of Skeezicks, by the more appropriate name of Moses.

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FAMOUS EXPLORER

Sketch of Roald Amundsen Who Found Northwest Passage.

Norwegian Friend of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, Only Man to Take Ship from Atlantic to Pacific.
Pittsburg, Pa.—Roald Amundsen, now about thirty-seven years old and with a record behind him of but a single independent expedition, has more or less proved himself one of the most competent arctic explorers who have ever gone north. He is the first and the only man so far to accomplish the long-attained feat of taking a ship from the Atlantic to the Pacific by the Northwest passage. He has made at a point within a short distance of the magnetic pole the only set of complete polar magnetic observations ever taken. These achievements, on which rests his fame, were accomplished in the years 1902-05, under conditions making them the more remarkable. Amundsen's successful expedition was made at a cost of only \$30,000, in a tiny whaling loop, the Gjoa, of but 70 feet length over all and 47 tons burden.



Roald Amundsen.

A number of years he cruised in the north as a whaler and sealer on Norwegian vessels. Amundsen had his first taste of exploration when in 1897 he went as first officer with the Belgica on Gerlach's Belgian polar expedition. From what he learned of the work and adventure of exploring on this trip and from the second Norwegian polar expedition of 1898 he became filled with arctic ambitions of his own. He formed the project of attaining the geographic pole sought by so many, but of trying the long-neglected Northwest passage and approaching and studying while on his way the little-known magnetic pole. Ross in his expedition of 1841 had made observations locating the magnetic pole and studying its phenomena, but for some sixty years his work had lain uncompleted.

COUNTRY WHOSE SOIL SPELLS

WHEAT AND OUT OF WHOSE FARMS THOUSANDS ARE GROWING RICH.

WHAT PRESIDENT TAFT AND OTHERS THINK OF CANADA.

Another Fat Year for the Canadian West.

Our Canadian neighbors to the north are again rejecting over an abundant harvest, and reports from reliable sources go to show that the total yield of 1909 will be far above that of any other year.

It is estimated that \$100,000,000 will this year go into the pockets of the Western farmers from wheat alone, another \$50,000,000 from oats and barley, while returns from other crops and from stock will add \$40,000,000 more. Is it any wonder then that the farmers of the Canadian West are happy?

Thousands of American farmers have settled in the above mentioned provinces during the past year; men who know the West and its possibilities, and who also know perhaps better than any other people, the best methods for profitable farming.

President Taft said recently in speaking of Canada: "We have been going ahead so rapidly in our own country that our heads have been somewhat swelled with the idea that we are carrying on our shoulders all the progress there is in the world. We have not been conscious that there is on the north a young country and a young nation that is looking forward, as it well may, to a great national future. They have 1,000,000 people, but the country is still hardly scratched."

Jas. J. Hill speaking before the Canadian Club of Winnipeg a few days ago said: "I go back for 53 years, when I came West from Canada. At that time Canada had no North-West. A young boy or man who desired to carve his own way had to cross the line, and today it may surprise you—one out of every five children born in Canada lives in the United States. Now you are playing the return match, and the North-West is getting people from the United States very rapidly. We brought 100 land-seekers, mainly from Iowa and Southern Minnesota, last night out of St. Paul, going to the North-West. Now, these people have all the way from five, ten to twenty thousand dollars each, and they will make as much progress on the land in one year as any one man coming from the Continent of Europe can make, doing the best he can, in ten, fifteen, or twenty years."

It is evident from the welcome given American settlers in Canada that the Canadian people appreciate them. Writing from Southern Alberta recently an American farmer says: "We are giving them some new ideas about being good farmers, and they are giving us some new ideas about being good citizens. They have a law against taking liquor into the Indian Reservation. One of our fellows was caught on a reservation with a bottle on him, and it cost him \$50. One of the Canadian Mounted Police found him, and let me tell you, they find everyone who tries to go up against the laws of the country."

"On Saturday night, every bar-room closed, at exactly 7 o'clock. Why? Because it is the law, and it's the same with every other law. There isn't a bad man in the whole district, and a woman can come home from town to the farm at midnight if she wants to, alone. That's Canada's idea how to run a frontier; they have certainly taught us a lot.

"On the other hand, we are running their farms for them better than any other class of farmers. I guess I can say this without boasting, and the Canadians appreciate us. We turn out to celebrate Dominion Day; they are glad to have us help to farm the country; they know how to govern; we know how to work."

"I would rather raise cattle in Western Canada than in the corn belt of the United States. You can get your food cheaper and the climate is better for the purpose. We have a better market, but your market will improve faster than your farmers will produce the supplies. Winter wheat can be grown in one-half of the country through which I have passed, and alfalfa and one of the varieties of clover in three-fourths of it. The farmers do not believe this, but it is true."

Keating pace with wheat production, the growth of railways has been quite as wonderful, and the whole country from Winnipeg to the Rocky Mountains will soon be a network of trunk and branch lines. Three great transcontinental lines are pushing construction in every direction, and at each siding the grain elevator is to be found. Manitoba being the first settled province, has now an elevator capacity of upwards of 25,000,000 bushels, Saskatchewan 20,000,000, and Alberta about 7,000,000, while the capacity of elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur, on the Great Lakes, is upwards of 30,000,000 more.

Within the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta there are flour and oatmeal mills with a combined capacity of 25,000 barrels per day, and situated along some famous water powers in New Ontario, there are larger mills than will be found anywhere in the Prairie Provinces.

Last year the wheat crop totaled over 100,000,000 bushels. This year the crop will yield 30,000,000 more. A recent summary shows that on the 1st of January, 1909, the surveyed lands of the three western provinces, totaled 134,000,000 acres, of which about 22,000,000 have been given as subsidies to railways, 11,000,000 disposed of in other ways and 35,000,000 given by the Canadian Government as free homesteads, being 235,000 homesteads of 160 acres each. Of this enormous territory, there is probably under crop at the present time less than 11,000,000 acres; that the results will be when wide awake settlers have taken advantage of Canada's offer and are cultivating the fertile prairie lands, one can scarcely imagine.

Pathos of Old Place in Schools. In an address at a teacher's institute Miss Martha Sherwood said that sad and pathetic stories should have no place in the public schools. She declared the pupils' great need is humorous stories and the kind that make children roll on the ground with laughter. "Anything to make them laugh, and laugh loudly," she said. "It makes them grow, puts sunshine into their lives and develops contented men and women."

States of Ohio City of Toledo, O. FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is maker partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & CO. doing business in the City of Toledo, Ohio, and State of Ohio, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY. sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 4th day of December, A. D. 1908. A. W. GLEASON. Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Then the Scissors Cut in. "You may be sharp," said the thread in the needle, "but I notice you are always getting it in the eye."

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of J. C. Watson In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Disapproval. "What makes those two women turn up their noses at each other so superciliously?" "Possibly," replied Miss Cayenne, "each got a glimpse of the current novel the other was reading."

The Way It Happened. Maude—Bigby literally fell at my feet. Belle—Aeroplane or intoxication? "DO NOT ACCEPT A SUBSTITUTE when you use Perry Davis' Pain-Expeller. It is a good for Rheumatism, Neuralgia and similar troubles. 75 years in constant use. See, See and Buy. You cannot hurt anybody without receiving a greater hurt yourself.—Coben. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, soothes the gums, reduces inflammation, always cures wind colic. See a bottle. A woman isn't necessarily lethead because her hat is on straight. Lewis' Single Binder straight 5c cigar is made to satisfy the smoker. Don't worry, and you'll have nothing to worry you.

For DISTEMPER Pink Eye, Epithemitis, Shingles, Eczema, and Catarrh of the Eye. SPOHN MEDICAL CO., Chemists and DRUGGISTS, CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.

LET US HELP YOUR HORSE. W. L. DOUGLAS \$3.00 \$3.50 & \$4.00 SHOES. THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF MEN'S FINE SHOES IN THE WORLD.

Have Heat Brought To You. PERFECTION Oil Heater. (Equipped with Smokeless Device) available. Place the heater where the cold is most annoying, strike a match. No fuss—no flurry—no smell—and, above all, no smoke. The Automatic Smokeless Device.

PAXTON'S Gas Roasted Coffee. The most popular coffee in the West comes from the biggest wholesale grocery in the West. Twenty-five years of coffee roasting and blending insures you that Paxton's Gas Roasted Coffee is always going to give you the same flavor and delight that the first cup does. 2 lb. air-tight sealed cans at 25c per pound. Your Grocer Has It.

WESTERN CANADA. 70,000 Americans. A Light or a Close Shave NO STROPPING NO RACING. Gillette. KNOWN THE WORLD OVER. W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 52-1908.

A Poor Weak Woman. As she is termed, will endure bravely and patiently agonies which a strong man would give way under. The fact is women are more patient than they ought to be under such troubles.

W. L. DOUGLAS \$3.00 \$3.50 & \$4.00 SHOES. THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF MEN'S FINE SHOES IN THE WORLD.

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