A HERITAGE OF FEAR

were out in West Virginia looking af- immensely important. ter some timber land for the Susquehanna Lumber Company. It was a are; some of them had heard that glorious October, and many of the Royal was afraid of animals, and summer visitors were still up in the thought it would be fine fun to see mountains, among them a family Royat had once known in New England. There was a girl named-oh, well, she had other names, but the one I knew her best by was just Sweetheart, so we'll call her that. Royal managed to see a good deal of her be- the 'big woods'. Our eyes were bantween whiles, and kept lingering on, giving the company one pretext after another, until a sudden change in the weather decided the girl and her mother to start at once for California, where they were to spend the winter. Then all at once it occurred to Royal that It mightn't be quite the square thing to sit there breathing the air and letting the company's money slip through our fingers, so the party of us planned to leave the next day but one.

Wheeling, having had no intention of putting up at our small village, but a variety of complications and cross currents, a broken cage and a sick lion had combined to sidetrack them there for a day or two.

T was the man with the samovar save fencing. We boys knew all that who was talking. There was a in a general way, of course, but we general refilling of pipes and a had both been kept pretty closely at rendjustment of feet about the chim- home, and when, as a great concession. Royal and I were allowed to 'A fellow named Royal-well, that's spend a haif holiday with one of the enough of his name, I guess-and I big boys at the settlement, we felt

"Well, you know what brutes boys him scared. Of course, neither of us knew what was in the wind, but my childish shyness made me stick closely to him, and we were both told to stand on a low, flat stump in the middle of an open space in what was then called daged and we were to wait till the boys gave three mysterious calls, when something wonderful would happen, they said. Royal had protested about the bandage.

"'You're afraid,' jeered one big boy, and Royal was silent.

"He was no coward but he knew his weak point, young as he was, and was abnormally sensitive about it. We submitted to having our eyes ban-That night a wheezy old freight daged, and stood there together on train disgorged Hagenback's whining, the stump, every nerve alert. I regrowling, roaring troupe at the little member 1 had the impression that station. They were on their way to something like a cloudburst would descend upon us-nothing was further from our minds than animals of any sort, when from a distance we heard the boys give a long quavering halloo, once, twice and again, and then there was a great rustling and twig "Royal and I were both down at cracking throughout the woods; it Sweetheart's that night, and she was grew louder and louder, with what teasing Royal to take her to the men- sounded like short, gusty puffs of agerie. He chaffed her for wanting to wind, and presently came a steady see a lot of mangy brutes-it was a rumble, like tramping soldiers. The poor show, anyway, he declared, and few moments of silence seemed like

to go would mean a pure waste of good hours, till we heard a short bellow, October weather. She suggested then, and tearing the handkerchiefs from that he take her hazel-nutting in the our eyes, we found ourselves sursnow-something to mark their last rounded by a herd of excited cattle, day there on the mountain. He was brandishing their horns and pawing

HE COOLLY STEPPED BETWEEN THE GIRL AND FURIOUS BEAST.

willing enough to do that, and it was the ground and each other in their arranged that we should start early efforts to reach the stump. mountain on the other side of the

railroad "The fall of snow was light but crisp and crusty, crunching under our tread as we made our way up the ribbon of path, 'for all the world like icing on a wedding cake,' laughed Sweetheart. I remember how the girl's cheek glowed in the stinging air, and her merry laugh echoed in the frosty stillness. Royal worshiped her-big. blot de and splendid, tramping there by her side, holding back now and then the overreaching branches, tossing aside a stone or a fallen bough from her way.

"Is it just your name, I wonder, laughed the girl, 'or is it a courtly, embroidered way you have of doing even the smallest things that always makes me feel like a princess with you as attendant?

"Royal laughed, and she went on, mischievously:

"'You see, it's merely as a compliment to myself that I like to have you with me,' with a richly contradictory glance, however, from under the mystery of long dark lashes; 'you have a way of making me feel positively regal, and then,' measuring his six feet two with her dancing eye, 'you are so comfortably big and strong you make me brave as well. I wouldn't be afraid of a regiment with you-or a whole menagerie.

"The man turned deathly pale at the last words, and in a flash I recalled a scene of our childhood, which, though I was much younger than Royal at the time, made a deep impression on me. Royal's mother had been terribly frightened by one of those dancing bears with which men used to tramp through the country a generation ago, and when her small boy opened his eyes on the world at last she determined to make him love all animals as much as she herself feared them. But from babyhood he showed an unmistakable antipathy toward even logs and cats; a cow would make him howl with terror, and once, when he was 4 or 5, he actually went into spasms at the sight of a monkey. The incident I mentioned, bowever, occurred several years after that. I was 5 or 6 myself, and had just begun to attend the new school that was built somewhat on the outskirts of the litvillage, with an eye to civic growth. and which was also attended by rather a rough element from the factory set-l'essent further down the pike. There were great numbers of cuttle raised

were on the salt lick for the herd, and the cattle by dozens as we saw them, and by hundreds as they would soon gather, would be trampling us down in their efforts to get the salt always found on the stump when the halloo was given. Suddenly a shot near by brought down a great horned brute, and the others halted and closed in about it, snorting and pawing the ground at sight of the blood. Roy had fainted and fallen off the stump, when a strange, brown, red-hooded woman made her way to us, and, taking him in her arms, ordered me to follow.

"It was weeks before Royal was himself again. As he grew stronger face! physically be seemed partially to outgrow his inherited terror. Once, years after when he mentioned the matter to me, he said, bitterly: 'It's worse than any physical infirmity, or even insanity, for it's both, and yet the world will never call it anything but cowardice? Somehow it all came back to me that morning on the mountain side, with a sort of paralyzing horror. After a moment, however, I got my grip again and put the thing from me as I would a nightmare. It was certainly out of place at such a time, they were so radiantle happy, those two; I could hear them laughing like children and see Sweetheart's scarlet enp. not a dozen yards away, through the bare, frosty branches. There was a charcoal clearing a little further up. where the thick, stunted undergrowth about its edges was dense with the piles of lopped branches, and Sweetheart started a game of hide and seek

"No one remembered very clearly afterward just how it happened; I didn't get upon the scene until just in time for the appalling climax, but at the edge of the clearing a man rushed past Royal, calling:

" 'Climb-the lion's loose!' "His daft terror was infections Roy's old fear swept everything before it, and he rushed blindly across the opening, plunging madly over obstructions and past trees that would have proved safe enough refuge, forgetting. in the insanity of the moment, Sweetbeart-everything, until on the far edge of the clearing he came face to face with the girl, paralyzed before the lion, crunching, lashing its tall to spring. It was then that I, all unconscious of the sensation, and unconernedly rattling the nuts in my pock-

on the balls of green fire that flashed from the great, tawny head. It seemed ages-it could scarcely have been seconds-no one of the four of us moved that was like a howl and a sob, turned you know it." and slunk off into the thick underbrush higher up the mountain.

"Then we both rushed to Royal, who still had not stirred. Sweetheart put her little arms about his neck and said all the things that a woman would say at a time like that. Still he did not move, and there was something in his eyes that chilled my marrow. he would not speak to her. After a moment he turned and went with us down the mountain. We two talked at intervals, and Sweetheart spoke to him, but still no word passed his white lips. The girl insisted we should go to her cottage, and there her mother a physician was called, and after days of anxiety and consultation, the poor boy raving in delirium, it was pronounced brain fever. His life and ultimate sanity in any case were despaired of. The California trip, of been her own. I told her of his terrible heritage and the gypsy incidentand she understood, as a woman might, what a vital crisis in his life his love for her daughter had proved. Afterward we learned that the lioness, which had been almost unmanageable since the death of her old keeper, a giant Swede, of whom she was very fond, had become frantic on the death of one of her whelps and broken from the cage, attacked the new keeper and fled to the woods. She had not eaten during the whelp's illness, and must have been ravenous when she saw Sweetheart. Whether she thought Royal was her old master, or whether his superhuman sang froid cowed the brute in her, or whether, who knows, the love that conquered hunger met the love that could conquer fear-'Jove nodded to Jove' over the shoulder of a man and his brother beastwe speculated endlessly in whispers during those weeks Royal's life hung in the balance.

way.

and tears of relief sprung to Sweet. chance against two or three 45-90s. heart's eves. 'It is a most peculiar but one other of the sort.' Then he old terrors-if'-he turned to Sweet-

"The warm, conscious color flooded the hearth and busied myself with the ashing embers. I heard her confused murmur and the doctor's 'If anything will. It's our only hope," and the portieres fell on their retreating foot-

"When Royal looked consciously in to Sweetheart's eyes for the first time in weeks he fainted. When he recovered the doctor withdrew, and then though the girl begged him not to talk, he insisted upon telling her the truth-that he had not runs to her assistance, as we all believed, but had in his terror utterly forgotten ber. "'I'm a coward!" he protested in

agony, 'and not fit to look in your

"Then Sweetheart, at her wits' end for his safety, said-what had in no wise been in her mind before:

Well. I'm going to marry you, any how- I've sent for a minister and we'll be married right here in half an bour. If what you've been telling me now is true and not some night mare of a weary brain, you're a hundred times braver than we all believed you-just the telling makes a hero of

"A light seemed to break over the sick man-perhaps, after all, there were different kinds of cowardice. He lay very still for a while, thinking, in his weak, dazed way-and then:

"To you know, Sweetheart,' he said, 'I think somehow I'm not afraid of-of animals any more; couldn't we have a-a lion at our-wedding?

"Sweetheart laughed. Wouldn't a dog do-or a cow?' "'No,' he returned, with the childish persistency of the weak, 'I want a

"'We'll make a tour of menageries

on our wedding trip,' she smiled. "'No.' he pleaded the had evidently accepted unquestionably her arrangement for immediate nuptials); it will be a long time before we can take a wedding trip-and I want the lion at

"Then the doctor came back, and took in the situation, after a word or two. His patient was cured even be youd his hopes, but he clung to the whim, which was, in truth, just the reflex phantom of his madness he craved childishly now the one thing be had all his life dreaded.

"'Would a bear do?' the old man sked, as if the sick man's desire were the most natural thing conceiv

ed, for all the world like a litt ad deciding upon a new ter.

Sweetneart opened her eyes, but held her peace.

'All right, we'll have one here by daylight-and the minister'll be here. a muscle-till the lion, with a cry too, and you'll be a well man before

"It was certainly the weirdest ceremony ever seen. The December dawn was just creeping through the shutters-the big, brown cub, whose mother the clergyman from the other side of the mountain had killed two winters before, and which had since lived in his house and grown up with his children, sat solemnly on the bed, Sweetheart was frightened, too, when Roy's arm about his neck, while his other hand rested in Sweetheart's, and the clergyman himself stood before the three, reading the service. For some inexplicable reason the cub seemed to take a violent fancy to Roy. and was reluctant to leave him when his master's duties were over, so we at last persuaded Royal to go to bed, let him stay, and Royal fondled him as he had never had even a dog in all the other years of his life. When at last he was able to be moved, and the California trip was replanned for the three, the cub's master was induced to part with his pet, and when course, was given up, and Swetheart's I last heard of them—they had settled mother nursed the boy as if he had near Boston, I think-the big, brown cub was still one of the family, which had been increased, also, by a little Royal, whose playfellow he was, and who loved all four-footed things as he did his own kith and kin."-Philadel, [fatal character. It is classed with hyphia Ledger.

HUNTER'S DEAREST TROPHY.

Sportsman's Ambition Marred Unless He Has Killed a Bear.

A big black bear is the trophy that all sportsmen who have been in the right, and a moose, of course, is a sportsman's ambition until he gets one; the opening of African trade. then he must have a bear. It sounds you have killed a bear, comments the Bangor Commercial. Bears are supposed to be very dangerous and only shot after hand-to-hand encounters and thrilling escapes from death.

Bear hunting, however, is not so precarious as the sportsmen often a meeting of the Royal Irish Academy roast beef has impressed you somemake it out to be. The killing often consists of merely running across one "One night the doctor had called for in the woods and shooting him before a second time. 'I'll stay with him a he can get away. Then dogs are often ed that the fauna of the Atlantic isl York Tribune, "yes, indeed. I think, little while,' he had said. Sweetheart used in hunting bears. While the dogs and I sat together before the library by their barking and snapping are fire-her mother and the nurse were keeping the brute excited, the hunter resting. There had been something has time to take a good aim and get the theory of a land bridge, in the unusual in the doctor's manner. Pres- his game. Bears are often found in ently he beckoned to us from the door- their dens and smoked out. They are sometimes inclined to be ugly when times. "'He is conscious at last,' he said, this is done, but do not stand much

Practically all bears which are shot case,' he went on. 'I never knew of by sportsmen are brought out of the woods and either mounted whole or hesitated. 'He has no fever, but-his made into rugs, or the heads are set mind is a blank-it is a question up with the mouth open to give them a whether it will ever be anything else, fierce expression. Bears are outside Again, it may come back to him the pale of the law in Maine and may slowly, with all the old memories, the be shot, trapped or killed in any other way wherever they may be found. heart-'if there were any great joy in Whenever a bear comes down from the future for him-anything that up river the owner can always be would engage and delight every fac- found at the western depot. Perhaps ulty and emotion for a little time-I he has a deer or moose along that he think we might hope for his complete has to identify. After doing so he will up a connection from the track to the always ask if it is necessary for him apparatus under the locomotive which to prove property in regard to the governs the brakes. At the same time "The warm, conscious color flooded bear, and he smiles proudly on the smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the constitution of the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear, and he smiles proudly on the crowds which are always gathered bear. the game he has, why he will make a big touse about not being able to find the warden so as to identify his bear; for, of course, he wants to be sure that the bear isn't seized. He wouldn't have that happen for anything. Oh, no. Nor would be have the crowd remain ignorant of the fact that he got

Cats of All Kinds.

A dangerous cat (catastrophe). An aspiring cat (catamount). A cat that can swim (catfish).

A cat that can fly (catbird). A cat that will be a butterfly (cater

pillar). A library cat (catalogue). A cat that asks questions (cate

A cut's near relation (catskin).

A cat that is good to eat (catsup). A horned cat (cattle).

A cat that throws stones (catapult)

A tree cat (catalpa). A water cat (cataract).

A cat that flavors grapes (catawba).

(catacivsm). A subterranean cat (catacomb).

A cat that, living, appears dead (cat-

A cat prized as a gem (catseye). A cat with a cold (catarrh) .- Ladies Home Journal.

Pleases the Birds.

A scientist once put an automatic music box on the lawn and spent many hours watching the robins, blue tits and other birds gathering about it. A look ing glass put up where the birds can see themselves in it is also very attrac tive, while a combination of a musica box and a looking glass pleases the birds more than anything else one could put out for their amusement.

Rebuke to a Churl.

A small negro boy went into a gro cery store a few days ago and asked a 'smart" clerk for a match. The clerk said they sold them and didn't give them away. The boy fumbled in his pocket, got a penny, bought a box of The oldest white American is 120, and matches, took out a few and handed the rest to the clerk. "Put these on the of 145. The oldest women is a negres counter, and when a gentleman asks aged 137. for a match give him one," said the dig nified little man as he walked away.

No Talent Required. "Marie Tompkins is going on

"How did she get the chance?" "Why, it's in a revival of 'Hamles and anybody is good enough for that."

—Cleveland Plain Dealer.



of a long wire has been found by Dr. A few weeks ago his royal highness The electric light bulb at the end Forrest Willard to be better than the paid quite an unofficial visit to Engwater bag for applying heat to head, land, and during his stay in London chest or abdomen.

on Mount Blanc's summit, not a single Prince Henry happened to sit next to microbe was found, although they were a marvelously beautiful but extremely plentiful in the observatory. The num-conceited English woman, who used ber showed a steady increase in de all her "dangerously winning ways" scending the mountain.

"Weather shooting" has assumed German prince. such importance in southern Europe perts are mostly convinced that gun understood.

The mysterious "sleeping sickness" of West Africa, which has been the subject of late scientific investigation, bored by the "beauty's" silly "gash, from person to person in some un have my 'confession.' known way, beginning with slight list. The biushing Lady then into death, its duration being from ened eagerly.

The fascinating legend, which has fantastical stories, of the former ex- beef! istence of a great and populous conti nent in the Atlantic ocean west from shricked the shocked and bitterly disthe Strait of Gibraltar, occasionally appointed Lady --- at such a prooccupies the attention of men of sci saic "confession." "Our roast beefl ence. Such an occasion took place at But surely something else besides our in November, when the Atlantis problem was discussed by Dr. R. F. Scharff. "Yes, Lady ---," tenderly replied who contended that the evidence showands was mainly derived from a for | next to your English roast beef, I have mer land connection with Portugal and been most impressed by your English Morocco. Dr. Scharff also defended boiled beef?" same latitudes, connecting Europe and America, and persisting until Miocene

In Austria and Germany an auto trains without the co-operation of the engine driver or the brakemen has re cently been tried with satisfactory re parts, one carried by the locomotive close to the rails, and acting directly upon the brakes of the train, and the nected with all signal points at curves gates, and so forth. If it becomes necessary suddenly to stop an approach above object in view. The oar itself ing train the turning of a lever throws brokes can be released in a similar manner. Between Vienna and Krem: the device has worked successfully with trains running 62 miles an hour.

Returning recently from one of his annual trips to Europe, Senato Chauncey M. Depew was, as usual the center and life of the group which had gathered in the steamer's smoking room after dinner and all of his mos ancient stories were brushed up and made to do duty once more. Nearly all of the other passengers volunteered various contributions to the general entertainment, but one old country man sat in a corner every evening smoking his pipe in silence, broker only now and then by a guttura chuckle. As the steamer neared New York Mr. Depew proposed to the oth ers that he should have a little fur with this old hayseed and try to ge a rise out of him, and, calling across

"Mr. Jones, all the rest of us have been doing what we could to amuse A cat that covers acres of ground the company during the voyage, but we have not heard from you. Can't you tell us a story?"

the room, he said:

Mr. Jones could not think of any story.

"Well, can't you sing us a song?" Oh, no! Mr. Jones could not sing. "Well, you certainly ought to do your share; perhaps you can give us

Well, he had been thinking of a co nundrum, Mr. Jones finally admitted and it was this:

"What is the difference between Mr Depew and a wild turkey?"

When no one present could suggest the answer Mr. Jones drawled out: "Wall, a wild turkey aln't stuffed with chestnuts till after he's dead."

American Centenarians.

Mr. Simon, addressing the Hundres Year Club in New York, cited figures furnished by the United States censu bureau recording 3,435 centenarians, in cluding eighty-six of unwards of 191 years old and fifteen upwards of 130 there are an Indian of 150 and a negre

Now It's All Off. "I thought her marriage was coming

off during New Year's week?" "It was, but her engagement cam off during Christmas wek."-Brooklys Eagle.

A man can't marry every woman

PRINCE HENRY'S "CONFESSION."

Lovely Noblewoman, Fishing for a Compliment, Disgusts Mim.

A story is now going the rounds of the London clubs concerning Prince Henry of Prussia, who, rumor says, will before long pay another visit to the United States.

thy and deservedly popular American In one hundred analyses of the air millionaire. At dinner one evening to please and captivate the popular

"Oh! your royal highness," softly that not less than three international remarked the society beauty, "I'm so congresses to consider it have been glad you like dear old England and held. The latest report shows that ext the English people. Now, will your roval highness tell me quite candidly firing is useless for influencing rain what has impressed you most foccior hall, although experiments are urg. bly-what has given you the greatest ed until the possible effects are fully pleasure—during your visit to this country? I'm simply longing to have your 'confession' on this point."

Prince Henry, who was genuinely proves to be a form of meningitis, dif- looked around his host's hospitable tafering from cerebro-spinal meningitis ble and then, with apparent deep earnin its chronic and almost invariably estness, replied; "You ask me, Lady -, what has impressed me most forcdrophobia as one of the most deadly ibly during my short visit to your diseases known. It is communicated country. Well, I'll tell you-you shall

lessness, which passes into come and expecting some sweet compliment, list

one to six months. Thus far it has "I have been fascinated with many been known only among negroes. It things since I have been in England," woods are after. Shooting deer is all has depopulated large districts, how continued the prince, dreamily looking ever, and its spread is feared through down at his plate, "but what has given me greater pleasure than anything else -what has fascinated me most-has so much bigger, you know, to say that led to many speculative theories and been-I think-your glorious roast

"Oh! your royal highness!" almost

thing else, surely?" Prince Henry, according to the New

BOW-FACING ROWING MECHANISM.

From time to time inventors devote their attention to designing a method matic system of stopping fast railroad of propulsion for rowboats which shall enable the oarsman to face in the direction the boat is being driven, with the purpose of enabling the man handsuits. The apparatus consists of two ling the oars to steer the boat without the necessity of craning his neck at frequent intervals or taking easily misunderstood orders from another occuother attached to the track and con pant of the boat. The mechanism here illustrated has been designed by Dandel H. Sheen of Peoria, Ill., with the



SHOWING ONE OAR IN POSITION

is a straight biade mounted on a curved handle, which, in turn, is pivoted at the end of an arm extending from the horizontal shaft to which the power is applied by means of a short crank at the inner end. In the yoke in which the oar is pivoted is a spring which tends to throw the handle, at right angles to the supporting arm, and in this position it will clear the water in returning after each stroke. In the position of the oar here shown a projection on the handle is engaging a bracket on the side of the boat to bring the oar in position to exert its leverage in the water with the next stroke by throwing the upper end of the handle down against the shafts. To back the boat the end of the handle is clamped fast on the shaft, but normally the spring and bracket alternately exert their influence to throw it into its inoperative and working positions respec-

About the Human Body. Some statistician has been contrib-

ating his studies of the human body to a French journal. In its normal condition, he says, the human body contains enough iron to make seven large-sized nails, sufficient fat for the supply of 13 pounds of candles, enough carbon to make 65 gross of lead pencils and enough phosphorus for over 8,000 wax vestas. Or, reduced to another state, the same man possesses the possibilities of supply of 90 cubic meters of gas and sufficient hydrogen to inflate a balloon of a carrying power of 150 bounds.

Population is Declining. It is estimated that the Eskimo pop-

ulation of Alaska, Labrador and Greenland has declined from 30,000 in 1880 to 15,000 at the present time, owing to the thinning out of the seal, wairas polar bear and other sources of food

It should occur to a man oftener thes is friends don't mean all they say, and that his enemies de.