

### SUCCESS IN OBSCURITY.

There's a song for the man who is lucky and bold,  
For the man who has fate on his side,  
There are cheers for the folk that are jingling the gold,  
And are drifting along with the tide,  
But the man who is striving to get to the land  
And facing the hungry wave's crest,  
We quite overlook, for we don't understand  
The fellow that's doing his best.  
But he has his rewards when the story has won,  
Though we smile as he plods on his way,  
For his own self-esteem is the prize he has won,  
As obscurely he's stood in the fray,  
And he knows the affection of home and of friends  
And the pleasure of honest-earned rest;  
There are peace and good will, as the twilight descends,  
For the fellow that's doing his best.  
—Washington Star.



## A REPORTER'S GOOD FORTUNE

By CHARLES AUSTIN HARTLEY

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I was kneeling on a carpet of forest leaves, dropping twenty-dollar gold pieces into my hat, as an officer of the law checked them off. While in the midst of this unusual occupation I heard a slight rustle at my side, and looking up, beheld Rollin Pemberton gazing down at me. I had not seen him for five years, and at parting our relations were not cordial, but he addressed me in a tone of voice which indicated that whatever ill-feeling he may have borne me had disappeared in the lapse of time. I returned his salutation and went on dropping gold into my hat, followed by other metals and paper currency to the amount of five thousand dollars. Then I arose to my feet, brushed the leaves from my clothing and calmly surveyed my audience, which consisted of a man in shackles, two officers and Mr. Pemberton.

Five years before I had left Mr. Pemberton's presence after a rather stormy interview, in which his daughter Maude and myself were principally interested. I had sought his consent to our marriage. He stormed and raged until I feared that he would topple over from heart failure. "You are too young to think of such a thing as marriage!" he exclaimed. "It is preposterous! Go away and stay five years. You are both mere children!"

Well, I went away after an understanding with Maude. We were to remain faithful though the heavens fell. We half way admitted, however, that the old gentleman was right.

I joined the staff of a progressive city daily, and in the course of time reached a place where I could count on good assignments, requiring penetration and perseverance. One night a brief telegram came in from a town fifty miles away. It was from a friend of the paper, and said: "Send a man to Bowlington at once. Good story for right man. Sensational!"

An hour later I was on my way to Bowlington by rail, and by daylight I was at the city prison, the most likely place, I thought, to pick up the scent of the story I was after. Just as I arrived two officers were in the act of bundling a man in irons into an express wagon. After a few guarded inquiries I learned that an old gentleman had been robbed of five thousand dollars the night before in the principal hotel of the town, and that two suspects had been arrested ten miles away and brought back. They had nothing on their persons to fasten the crime on them, but, nevertheless, they were thrust into prison at the county seat. Finally, one of them weakened and offered to conduct the officers to the place where the money was secreted. This they were on the point of doing when I arrived. I managed to join the party with the expectation that I would get back in time to gather the town end of the story and



"I felt something spongy."

put it on the wire for the next issue of the paper.

When we reached our destination it turned out that the prisoner did not know exactly where the money was hidden. It was somewhere in a fifty-acre tract of woodland with a heavy underground. The hiding had been done in the darkness of the night before by the accomplice of the man with us. When we reached the top of a high bank on the edge of the forest, the accused man stopped and said: "I do not know exactly where the money is. It is somewhere in this wood. We entered on this side. My pal had the money and secreted it. I did not see where he placed it,

but I know that it was left in this forest," waving his hands in no particular direction.

You can realize that this was very indefinite information. However, we started out, one officer and the prisoner going in one direction, the second officer took another course and I strolled away by myself. I had but little faith in the story of the alleged penitent prisoner and less hope of locating the stolen money. I had made up my mind that the prisoner was attempting to play a sharp trick—seeking an opportunity to escape. I picked up a stick as I started and



Maude had remained at the roadside in the carriage.

used it as a cane for some distance. I had not gone a hundred yards before I noticed a broken weed with the top lying in the direction I was going. A little further along a severed vine furnished evidence that some human being or a lower animal had "rased" along that way shortly before. I followed the direction of these signs. A heavy shower had fallen late in the night, and had obliterated any evidence of overturned leaves.

I had not proceeded one-fourth of the distance through the timber when I noticed a peculiar looking hump beside a cluster of bushes. I had been jabbing my stick into hollow logs and other places likely to be chosen by the thief. The hump which I have mentioned did not seem to invite investigation; the rain had beaten the leaves down and they looked as if they might have been undisturbed for a year, but as I passed, I poked at the little elevation in a mechanical sort of way. I felt something spongy; I scraped the leaves away and there lay a canvas bag! I at once called the other members of the party to my side before I removed the bag from its hiding place. Then at the direction of the officers the bag was opened and the money counted, the value of each piece being noted in a small vest pocket book by one of the officers. The full amount of five thousand dollars was there.

This was the money I was dropping into my hat, piece by piece, when Rollin Pemberton came up. I did not know that he was interested in the matter and had no idea how he came to be on the scene—that place being a thousand miles from his home. The officers took charge of the money and we turned back toward the highway. Mr. Pemberton fell in at my side and we walked away together. "Ralph," he said—Ralph Walton is my name—after an embarrassing pause, "that was well done."

"By the merest accident," I assured him. "I had no more idea of finding that money than I have of flying to China this moment."

"Well, I feel easier over it, at any rate," he went on. "That was about the size of my pile of ready money." Then came my turn to be surprised. "Yours," I exclaimed. "How does that come about?"

"I am the old party who was robbed." Then came the explanation. Mr. Pemberton and his daughter had started for a distant part of the country to purchase some property. He had carried that money with him in order to pay cash. He had been traced by two robbers and his money stolen. He had heard of the attempt to recover the money and together with his daughter had followed in a carriage. Maude had remained at the roadside in the carriage which was drawn up under an apple tree, while

her father followed us into the timber. As I drew near the carriage walking beside her father, seemingly on the best of terms, Maude looked at me, started slightly, while a rosy blush suffused her cheeks. Mr. Pemberton introduced us as if we had never met before. In a moment he considerably stepped to the horses' heads to attend to the harness. Maude whispered: "Why, Ralph, what has happened to papa? Has he forgiven our youth?"

It was a bright May day and the falling apple blossoms clustered in Maude's hair, making a pretty picture, as she sat there smiling.

I went back to town in Mr. Pemberton's carriage and sent a good story to the paper, but the most interesting events were omitted.

We were married the next Christmas. Mr. Pemberton is a grandpa now, and my wife and I sometimes listen as he tells the children a story about a newspaper reporter who could find lost money better than the man who hid it. "I sometimes think he helped hide it," he often adds, "to hoodwink a certain old man I know into the belief that he found it—and incidentally to get the old man's daughter."

### HARE AN ELUSIVE ANIMAL.

Writer Tells of Charm of Hunting Small Creature.

To my notion, there is a peculiar charm about trailing a hare, writes Edwyn Sandys in February Outing. In the first place there is a superb uncertainty about where you will locate the beast, if it knows where it is itself. You find a fresh track, and if wise, you follow it in what apparently is the wrong direction, and then—well, you just keep on following. Somewhere, perhaps only a few yards to one side of where you struck the track, is the other end, and, of course, a hare. You acquire wisdom concerning this small technically later—possibly hours later—but that does not of necessity spoil the sport. It may be the track is first found in a briery thicket, which hampers all the rising ground, marking the edge of a great swampy woodland. It is easy—in fact, almost too easy. The hare loves swampy woodland, so, of course, he merely has skipped for a trifling distance along the rim, as it were, of the depression, then gone down and squatted under some handy log, from which shelter you will bounce him within five minutes. Theoretically this is sound; practically it is a 100 to 1 shot on an utterly unreliable tip. Impulse prompts you to slant down toward the swamp at once, to jump him from somewhere, promptly knock him over and be done with it. This will save useless pottering over foolish tracks, and also some valuable time.

### Skate Sailing.

There is nothing new in the idea of skate sailing, says Dan Beard, in Outing. It is as old as skates, and dates back to the time when our ancestors with bones of animals bound to their feet spread their ample cloaks and allowed the wind to waft them over the surface of the ice.

But since that time the art has progressed, keeping pace with the evolution of the modern steel skate from its rude bone ancestor. Some time in the '80s skate sailing was first brought to the attention of the general public by a series of articles upon this subject which appeared in various periodicals, and we then became familiar with the Danish square sail and topsail, the long double, or two-man, sail of the Norwegians; the English lateen sail, with the mast made fast to the skater's leg, the handsome double-diamond sail invented by Charles Ledyard Norton and many others of minor importance.

As a rule, the foreign designs are as clumsy, impracticable and as much out of date as the forms of government under which they flourish.

### About Rats.

Dr. Danysz of the Pasteur institute in Paris finds that rats can contract a special disease to which other animals are not exposed. He has succeeded in obtaining the bacillus of the disease. It is necessary only to soak bread or grain in a bouillon of the microbe culture and allow the rat to eat it, when they contract the malady and usually die within five to twelve days. A number of experiments have already been made with the new method, especially in the sewers of Paris, which are full of rats and very good results have been obtained. It was proved during the experiments that the young rats are the most sensitive to the action of the microbe. The new rat-exterminating culture is coming into practical use in Paris and especially at the Bourse de Commerce, where it is used to protect the deposits of grain.

### With Foolish Haste.

With foolish haste we rush from play To struggle madly in the fray;  
We seek to beat the brazen gong,  
To pit ourselves against the strong.  
As if the chance might fade away,  
We for sweet childhood of its day  
And leave the laughter and the song,  
Glad moments that to youth belong.  
With foolish haste,  
Love sweetly beckons us to stay,  
But, rushing off, we answer nays,  
From laughter and from love and song  
We go to struggle in the throng,  
And end by sinking in dismay.  
With foolish haste.  
—S. E. Kiser.

### Baths in Schools.

All new schools in Switzerland have a portion of the ground floor appropriated for baths. Each class bathes about once a fortnight summer and winter. Soap is used and a warm bath is followed by a cooler one. Sick children and those having skin diseases are excluded.

### Autos in New York.

There are 2,835 licensed automobiles in the state of New York.

## BUILDING THE NAVY.

WHOLE COUNTRY A UNIT ON THE PROPOSITION.

Senator Corman's Opposition to the Creation of a Proper National Defense Will Be Condemned—His Own Party is Against Him.

The naval appropriation bill reported to the house authorizes the construction of one first class battleship, two first class armored cruisers, and three scout cruisers at a total cost of \$28,000,000. The bill authorizes also an increase of 3,000 in the number of sailors. The construction of so many cruisers is recommended because it is desired to give a better proportion to the navy. Last year provision was made for five battleships.

The committee says in its report: "If we judge public sentiment correctly it is in favor of the continuance of the policy of building up our navy. If we stopped now we would be left behind the leading countries of the world. The American people will not endorse the policy of sacrificing the American navy for internal improvements, nor is there any such necessity."

It is not mistaken in its judgment. The people do not wish to see the policy of building up the navy abandoned. That is not because they are bellicose and desire naval wars, but because experience and reason have brought them to the conclusion that the country must have a respectable and growing navy for purposes of national defense and the maintenance of American rights. President John Adams began the construction of a navy. Under Jefferson the work was stopped. He thought a navy unnecessary. When the war of 1812 came this country found itself at a terrible disadvantage because of that Jeffersonian policy which has an advocate now in the senate.

What is true of the people generally is not true of all the Democrats in the United States senate. The Democratic leader in that body, Senator Gorman, has put himself on record against naval expansion. He would spend money for internal improvements which his party once deemed unconstitutional, but not for warships. He said:

"We have naval vessels everywhere. Have you not enough now? Everybody will answer 'yes' unless it is true, as was floating around in high naval circles, that we are marching around the globe with a chip on our shoulder looking for the one great nation that troubles us more than any other in our trade relations to get up some trouble."

In his address at a Lincoln day dinner in New York the secretary of the navy quoted and commented on that repellent demagogical statement. He confessed that he was surprised by it, for he had thought that the policy of naval progress was not at all open to partisan attack. He had hoped that that policy would be continued no matter which party was in control of the national government, but his faith has been shaken by Senator Gorman's factious and unpatriotic utterances.

If that senator were as astute as he has been given credit for being, there might be cause to fear that he had gauged the sentiment of his party and truly represented it when he inveighed against an increase of naval force. But he has lost his astuteness or his cunning. He is blundering around blindly in quest of a partisan issue. He says "the navy is getting topheavy. There are too many men, too many sailors, too many guns afloat." He cannot persuade the mass of the Democrats that this is true. The navy will continue to be increased despite the unworthy opposition of an incompetent and discredited senatorial "leader."

### The Salvation of China.

Secretary Hay's Note suggesting that Russia and Japan limit the area of hostilities as far as possible and that the neutrality and administrative entity of China be respected has borne fruit. It is believed that his views commend themselves to the two governments to which they are specially addressed, and they assuredly do to most, if not all, of the neutral powers of Europe. When the substance of the note was made known there was some questioning and caviling in Europe. In some quarters it may have been due to vexation that the United States should have taken the lead in a matter of such general concern and importance, or there may have been a misconception of the scope of the secretary's proposition.

Of course the voice of unfriendly criticism was heard at once in the United States. Whatever the administration may suggest to protect the interests or to enhance the reputation and influence of the country is attacked directly or by innuendo. It was insinuated that Secretary Hay was about to drag the United States into war, that he was seeking to form a compact with other nations to compel China to remain neutral, and to compel Russia and Japan to respect that neutrality, or that he had made a move unfriendly to Russia, dictated by a desire to help Japan.

The vindication of a disinterested policy dictated solely by a desire to keep China out of a conflict which almost inevitably would end in the partition of the empire is at hand. Japan has acceded to the suggestions of Secretary Hay, and the formal concurrence of Russia is momentarily expected. The Russian government appears to have been slow to move because of its uncertainty as to the exact meaning attached by Secretary Hay to one of the phrases in his note. It is confidently believed at Wash-

ington that the concurrence of France in the American proposal has removed whatever doubts may have been entertained by Russia, and that the United States has achieved a great pacific victory.

The Chinese government has issued a proclamation of neutrality. No doubt it wishes to be absolutely neutral, but it may be beyond its power to regulate the conduct of the fanatical, uncontrollable elements in the population of northern China. Even if there should be local outbreaks, they hardly will interfere with the workings of the beneficent plan devised by the American secretary of state, which will, in all probability, be accepted and loyally observed by the belligerent powers.

### The Consular Service Bill.

No one expects much enthusiasm from politicians for measures diminishing spoils opportunities or limiting the area of their activities. The Lodge bill for the reorganization of the consular service of the United States has been endorsed by numerous industrial and commercial organizations. Indeed, the business interests of the country are practically a unit for the adoption of the merit system in the selection of consuls and the abolition of the fee system.

Notwithstanding this fact, and in spite of the further consideration that the bill has been recommended by the Senate committee on foreign relations all sorts of "constitutional" objections are now raised by its opponents. The measure, they say, is unnecessary, and no president would feel himself bound by its provisions. The right of the executive to appoint consular officers cannot be abridged by regulations prescribed by congress, it is gravely argued, and it is undignified to enact laws which must be purely advisory. All this has been heard before, ad nauseam, and to consider it seriously would be a waste of space and time.

The truth is that the opponents of the bill do not want merit in the consular service. They know the defects of the present system and they know that the service is maintained under the provisions of a law passed in 1856, which is necessarily antiquated and entirely inadequate to existing conditions. But the defects do not injure the political side of the service. They affect foreign commerce, for which congressmen having friends and hangers-on to reward for actual or imaginary aid care very little. If the existing law relating to the consular service is constitutional, the Lodge bill cannot be unconstitutional. At any rate, no executive would deem it safe or expedient to disregard a merit bill in obedience to personal and spoils politics.

The enactment of the Lodge bill by the present Congress would be a departure from the do-nothing and stand pat policy, but it is a departure which the business interests will not only cheerfully "stand," but gladly welcome. The friends of the measure are not hopeful; are they sufficiently energetic and earnest?

### Reciprocity With Canada.

The agitation in favor of reciprocal trade relations between the United States and Canada has been renewed by the Detroit chamber of commerce. The aim is to have the joint high commission reconvened for the purpose of negotiating a reciprocity treaty.

There is much to commend the idea. Both countries have many interests in common. Properly drawn, a reciprocity treaty would benefit both.

The first Canadian reciprocity treaty was made in 1854 and terminated by us in 1866. American sentiment over the Canadian protection of Confederate emissaries and the large balance of trade against us led to our withdrawal. In 1874 another treaty was negotiated, but failed of ratification by the senate.

In the two years, 1865 and 1866, under the old treaty, the balance of trade was largely in Canada's favor, but the conditions that immediately followed the war were principally responsible for this. In the main, the treaty promoted our commerce and was beneficial to both countries.

### Mr. Bryan's Prize Platform.

The Comptroller's offer of \$100 for a Democratic platform is surrounded with conditions that make the competition a cruelty which should call for police interference. The rule that the prize platform must be agreeable to ten Democratic newspapers is enough to fill a whole incurable ward with men made "hoony" by the attempt. The generous offer of an extra \$5 for a letter from Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Gorman or Judge Parker endorsing any platform any one of the newspapers named can draw is likely also to have a violent effect on weak-hearted editors. Mr. Watterson, who rails against the money power, and the other gentlemen invited to the joust will be so agitated at the temptation to the corruption of Democratic editorial morals opened up by the Comptroller's reckless liberality that they probably will decline to take part in it.

### Protectionist and Prosperous.

A free trade contemporary remarks that every industry of France enjoys a high degree of prosperity, and asks: "Has France made her tariff rates exportant?" France has always been a protectionist country. The savings of her people are proportionately the largest in the world.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### Novelty of Possession.

Col. Bryan admits that while abroad he secured one new idea, but he is keeping it to himself until the novelty of possession wears off a little.—Washington Post.

## INTERESTING TO AMERICANS.

Western Canada Will Soon Become the Supply Depot for Wheat for Great Britain.

During the past year about 50,000 Americans went from the United States to Canada. Most of these settled upon farm lands, and the writer is informed by agents of the Canadian Government that the greatest success has followed the efforts of nearly all. To their friends on this side of the boundary line the fullest assurance is given of the prosperity that is in store for them. There will always be a splendid market for all the grain, cattle, and other produce that can be raised in Western Canada, and with the advantages offered of a free homestead of 160 acres of land, and other lands which may be bought cheaply, an excellent climate, splendid school system, educational advantages of the best, what more is required. The husbandman gets more return for his money than in any other country in the world.

On the occasion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's visit to the Corn Exchange, London, England, Colonel Montgomery, V. D., made several important statements. "The function," he said, "which you have just been assisting in connection with a kindred association has doubtless shown you the importance of the provision trade of Liverpool in its relationship with the Dominion, and the enormous possibilities of the future development of that trade. Well, the grain trade of Liverpool has interests with Canada no less important than those of the provision trade. When it is borne in mind that 80 per cent of the breadstuffs of this great country has to be brought from abroad, you will readily appreciate with what great satisfaction we view the large and steadily increasing supplies of grain which are annually available for export from Canada, and I challenge contradiction when I say that of the wheats we import from Russia, India, the Pacific, and the length and breadth of the United States, none gives more general satisfaction, none is more generally appreciated than that raised in the Province of Manitoba. We cannot get enough of it, and it is no exaggeration to say that there are before us dozens of millers who hunger for it. This is not the time to enter into statistical questions, but we look forward with confidence to the time at which, with the present rate of progress, the Dominion of Canada will have a sufficient surplus of wheat to render this country independent of other sources of supply. I think I may, with justifiable pride, remind you that this is the chief grain market of the British Empire, and through its excellent geographical position, as well as through the enterprise of its millers, it is now the second milling center in the world.

Send to any authorized Canadian Government agent for copy of Atlas and information as to railway rate, etc.

Hope is the mainspring of life.—Socrates.

### The Useful Camel.

The Somali camel can eat everything and drinks nothing. It will make a meal where even the country pony would starve. Dareso, mimosa, acacia—all come alike to it; and when shoots and leaves are withered it can fall back on roots, thorns and bark. That sort of digestion makes it, of course, valuable in a country where the bill of fare seems compiled in the interest of the carnivora, but its indifference to liquid is its especial virtue. While the Arab camel needs drink daily, his Somali brethren when on a march are watered only every fifth day, and when drouth prevails may be left for ten. When grazing they are supposed to be watered every sixth day, but such regularity depends on the energy of the herders and the condition of the grass, the herds when the grass is green being often left without water for as long as three months.

### Japanese "Singing Insects."

Among the natural curiosities of Japan are its singing insects. The most prized of these tiny musicians is a black beetle named "suzumushi," which means "insect bell." The sound that it emits resembles that of a little silver bell of the sweetest and most delicate tone.

### The Most Common Disease.

Yorktown, Ark., Feb. 29th.—Leland Williamson, M. D., a successful and clever local physician, says:

"There is scarcely another form of disease a physician is called upon so often to treat as Kidney Disease. I invariably prescribe Dodd's Kidney Pills and am not disappointed in their effect for they are always reliable. I could mention many cases in which I have used this medicine with splendid success, for example, I might refer to the case of Mr. A. H. Cole.

"Age 31, greatly emaciated, some fever, great pain and pressure over region of kidneys, urine filled with pus or corruption and very foul smelling and passed some blood. Directed to drink a great deal of water, gave brisk purgative and Dodd's Kidney Pills. The pills were continued regularly for three weeks and then a few doses every week, especially if patient felt any pain in region of kidneys. Cured completely and patient performed his duties as farm laborer in four weeks."

"Dr. Williamson has been a regular practitioner for over twenty years and his unqualified endorsement of Dodd's Kidney Pills is certainly a wonderful tribute to this remedy.

It is with men as with horses; those that do the most prancing make the least progress.—Baron de Stassart.