

LETTING THE JUNGLE.

Further Adventures of Mowgli. BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

His plan was simpler, but much more thorough, and he laughed to himself when he thought that it was one of old Buldeo's tales told under the peepal tree in the evening that had put the idea into his head.

"It was a master-word," Bagheera whispered in his ear. "They were feeding by the rocks, and they obeyed as though they were bullocks. Look where they come now!"

Hathi and his three sons had arrived in their usual way without a sound. The mud of the river was still fresh on their flanks and Hathi was thoughtful, showing the green stem of a young banana tree that he had humped up with his tusks.

"Mowgli hardly lifted his head as Hathi gave him 'Good hunting.' He kept him swinging and rocking and shifting from one foot to another for a long time before he spoke, and when he opened his mouth it was with Bagheera and not to the elephants."

"I will tell a tale as was told me by the hunters we hunted today," said Mowgli. "It concerns an elephant, old and wise, who fell into a trap, and the sharp-tusked in the pit scarred him from a little above his heel to the crest of his shoulder, leaving a white mark." Mowgli threw out his hand, and as Hathi wheeled the moonlight showed a long white scar on his side as though he had been struck with a red hot iron.

"But he broke his ropes, for he was strong, and he went away till his wound was healed. And I remember that he had three sons, and these things happened many, many rains ago, and very far away among the fields of Bhurtpore. What of course to those fields at the next raining, Hathi?"

"They were reaped by me and my three sons," said Hathi.

"And to the huts in which the men slept?" said Mowgli.

"And to the roof to pieces and the jungle swallowed up the walls," said Hathi.

"And what more besides?" said Mowgli.

"As much good ground as I can walk over in two nights from the east to the west, and from the north to the south, as much as I can walk over in three nights, the jungle took. We let in the jungle upon five villages, and in these villages and in their lands, the grazing ground and the soft crop grounds, there is not one man today who gets his food from the ground. That was the sack from the fields of Bhurtpore, which I and my three sons took, and we ask, Man-uh, how the news of it came to thee?" said Hathi.

"And now I see even Buldeo can speak the truth."

"A man told me. It was well done, Hathi, with the white mark; but a second time it can be done better, for the reason that there is a man to do the work. The man who cut the man-pack that cast me out? They are idle, senseless and cruel; they play with their mouths, and they do not kill the deer for food, but for sport. When they are full fed they would throw their own breed into the Red Flower. It is not well that they should live here any more. I am tired of them."

"Kill, then," said the youngest of Hathi's three sons, picking up a tuft of grass, dusting it against his fore legs and throwing it away, while his two brothers glared furiously from side to side.

"What good are white bones to me?" Mowgli answered angrily. "Am I cub of a wolf to play with the sun with my head? I have killed Sher Khan, and his hide rots on the Conneli Rock, but I do not know where Sher Khan is gone, and my stomach is still empty. Now, will you take that which I can see and touch. Let in the jungle upon that village, Hathi!"

"The villagers shivered and covered down. He could understand it. If the worst came to the worst, a quick rush down the village street, and a right and left blow into a crowd, or systematic killing, that was his plan. He was in the twilight, but their scheme for deliberately blotting out an entire village from the eyes of man and beast frightened him. Now he saw why Mowgli had sent for Hathi. No one but the long-eared elephant could plan and carry through such a war.

"Let them run as the men ran from the fields of Bhurtpore, till we have the rain water for the plough and the noise of the rain on the thick leaves for the patterning of the spindles—till Bagheera and I fall in the house the best of the rain, and the best drink at the tank behind the temple. Let in the jungle, Hathi!"

"But I— but we have no quarrel with them, and it needs no quarrel with them to do this. We will have the pieces where men sleep," said Hathi, doubtfully.

"Are ye the only eaters of grass in the jungle?" Drive, Mowgli said, and the pig and deer and the pig and the Nighal look to it. The ye needs never show a handbreadth of hide till the fields are naked. Let in the jungle, Hathi!"

"There will be no killing!" My tusks were red at the back of the fields of Bhurtpore and I would not make the noise again. "Nor I! I do not wish your bones to be on the clean earth. Let them go and find a new place. They cannot stay here. I have seen and smelt the blood of the woman that gave me food—the woman whom they would have killed but for me. Only the smell of the new grass on their doorsteps can take away that smell. It burns in my mouth. Let in the jungle, Hathi!"

"What did the old man do who saw the stake burn in my hide till we saw the village die under in the spring growth. Now I see. We will let in the jungle."

Mowgli had barely finished his breath—he was shaking all over with rage and hate—before the place where the elephants had stood was empty and Bagheera was looking at him with your eyes.

"By the Broken Lock that freed me," said the Black Panther at last, "art thou the sacred thing I have seen? Master of the Jungle, when my strength goes weak for me—speak for Baloo—speak for us! We are cubs before thee! Shattered twigs foot! Fawns that have lost their doe!"

THE MERIT TEST FOR FIREMEN

The Old Reliable Way of Securing Efficiency in the Service. FOURTEEN YEARS' TRIAL IN CHICAGO

Rigid Examinations Insure Competency in Every Branch—No FAVORITISM SHOWN—Various Effective Tests

The proposed reorganization of the Omaha fire department and the inauguration of the merit system excite general interest and discussion. It is generally conceded that a radical reform is necessary to eradicate the petty jealousies and faction spirit, and elevate the department to a high standard of efficiency. The merit system, fairly and conscientiously enforced, is shown by the experience of older cities to be the one effective means of securing permanent results.

The merit system has been in force in Chicago for fourteen years. To its rigid enforcement is largely due the honor which Chicago enjoys of possessing the best fire department. It is conceded, says the Chicago Post, discussing the details of the system, that Chicago's gallant corps of firemen is the best disciplined, the bravest, the most active and alert of any fire department active abroad. Obedient to their superior officers, drilled as soldiers in the regular army, they are called upon to face danger with a coolness and self-sacrifice which it is to go down to death in a blazing tower of a cold storage warehouse or to brave it on the unknown ground of a lumber yard.

The force consists of 1,060 men. The Chicago department 1,060 men. The officers are chief, assistant chief, three assistant fire marshals, fourteen chiefs of battalions, ninety-seven captains, 108 lieutenants, seventy-four sergeants, eight men.

Instructions—Applicants for appointment to membership in the Chicago fire department must be tested on the following: 1. Physical condition. 2. Moral character. 3. English language.

At a place of worship in North London a funny incident occurred on a recent Sunday. A young man who carried a collecting plate around the service, before starting put his hand in his pocket to take out the money, and a shilling in the plate and passed it around among the congregation, which included many young and pretty girls. The girl who took the shilling, instead of the young man, took a glance at the plate, found that he had put, instead of a shilling, a conversation looking in red letters staring every body in the face, while one of the congregation had capped it by a second sentence, on which was printed, "Name the day."

An absent-minded preacher remarked in a eulogy from his pulpit lately that "Death does not get away from the stockbroker and the man with a brother in Colorado got up and left the sacred building."

Rev. Dr. Shouter—All create a decided sensation with my sermon this morning. Mrs. Shouter—Are you not a trifle overdone?

Rev. Dr. Shouter—No; you see it treats of absolutely nothing but religion.

It is said that the only lineal descendant of John Knox, the Scotch reformer, is a member of the congregation of the Holy Cross at Notre Dame.

The permanent fund of the board of relief of the Presbyterian church has reached the handsome sum of \$1,350,000.

Grab-bags, wheels of fortune, and gipsy camps at church fairs have been decided by a New Jersey court to be in violation of the law against lotteries.

Rev. M. M. McPherson has lately completed three weeks of revival services in Toronto, Canada. A large hall, holding nearly 4,000 people, was completely filled at nearly every one of the meetings.

Less than one-third of our population are church members. Out of a population of about 63,000,000 in 1890 only 20,000,000 were even nominal Christians.

Ex-Senator Edmunds is said to be in Washington for the purpose of conferring with prominent Episcopalians on the subject of building a cathedral in Washington.

The Presbyterian church in Pennsylvania numbers 121,000 communicants, 290,000 Sunday school scholars and 1,170 ministers. The churches number about 11,900, and gave last year \$3,000,000.

The McCormick Theological seminary of Chicago has refused to submit to the control of the Presbyterian general assembly. Lane seminary, at Cincinnati, took similar action, and Western seminary, at Pittsburgh, refused in answer to the request of the general assembly.

A number of Protestant clergymen will appear before the coming Wisconsin legislature to urge the passage of a bill taxing all church property. The movement has grown out of the fact that certain religious bodies have made exceedingly large investments in real estate, which, of course, is exempt from taxation.

According to latest returns there are in the city of New York 522 churches of all denominations, with a seating capacity of 400,000. The most numerous churches are Episcopalians, with 103 churches, and the Roman Catholics with eighty-four; the Methodists follow with seventy; the Baptists fifty; the Jews have forty-six, and the Congregationalists only seven.

A Methodist church has declined to accept a subscription for a cigarette manufactory. Yet, why should it decline? It may be taken to build churches with which the policy of an old preacher, who thundered against the House of Representatives, is known to refuse a contribution from a saloon keeper. He argued that there was no better use for the money than to buy from him, and that in building God's temple and carrying on God's work. And a pretty good argument it was.

CONTINENTAL CLOTHING HOUSE.

Cor. 15th and Douglas Sts. Open Monday Night.

A Christmas Gift

Why Not One of These: SMOKING JACKETS, \$3.25. BOYS' KNEE PANTS, 25c. BOYS' KNEE PANTS, 50c. BOYS' KNEE PANTS, 75c.

Advertisement for Continental Clothing House featuring various clothing items like suits, shirts, trousers, and hats with prices listed. Includes illustrations of men in suits and children's clothing.

18 KARAT GOLD PLATE

LADIES' OR GENTS' SIZE. CUTTING OUT AND FILLING IN WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS AND MAILING TO THE EASTLAK MFG. CO., CORNER ADAMS AND STATE STS., CHICAGO, ILL.

IRREPARABLE IMMIGRANTS.

New Zealand Parliament Moving to Fence the English colonies, especially New Zealand and Australia, are protesting against importations of pauper immigrants from the home country or other nations.

COMPOSITION OF THE TRIAL BOARD.

The trial board consists of Chief Swenie, the first assistant chief and a chief of a battalion. Charges against the men are made by the captains and charges against officers are made by the assistant chiefs.

RULES FOR THE ENGINEERS.

Engineers and assistant engineers are skilled labor, and rigid examinations also are required for these positions. After an assistant engineer has served sixty days, a recommendation of the captain of his company may be assigned regularly to the ranks of the firemen in the second class.

Mertry of the Last.

It was the 21st of April, 1821. Dr. J. P. Frank, the assistant governor of the University hospital, Vienna, lay on his deathbed, and was expected every moment to pass away. Once more the eight leading medical men of the capital gathered around his couch. All at once the patient burst into laughing.