

SLEEPY-TIME TALES THE TALE OF FATTY COON BY ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY CHAPTER VII

Johnnie Green is Disappointed. It made Fatty Coon feel sad, just to think that there was that field full of corn, and that he could never eat all of it. But Fatty made up his mind that he would do the best he could. He would visit the cornfield every night and feast on those sweet, tender kernels.

The very next night Fatty set out toward Farmer Green's. It was hardly dark. But Fatty could not wait any longer. He could not even wait for his brother. He hurried away alone. And when he came in sight of the cornfield he felt better. He had been the least bit afraid that the corn might be gone. He thought that maybe Farmer Green had picked it, or that some of the forest people had eaten it all. But there it was—a forest of corn waving and rustling in the moonlight as the breeze



It was lucky for Fatty that he started when he did.

He slipped through the rail fence. I wouldn't dare say how many ears of corn Fatty ate that night. And he would have eaten more, too, if it hadn't been for just one thing. A dog barked. And that spoiled Fatty's fun. For the dog was altogether too near for Fatty to feel safe. He even dropped the ear of corn he was gnawing and hurried toward the woods.

It was lucky for Fatty that he started when he did. For that dog was close behind him in no time. There was only one thing to do; Fatty knew that he must climb a tree at once. So he made for the nearest tree in sight—a big, spreading oak, which stood all alone just beyond the fence. And as Fatty crouched on a limb he felt safe enough, though the dog barked and whined, and leaped against the tree, and made a great fuss.

Fatty looked down at the dog and smiled a little. He was not afraid. But it made him cross to be driven out of the cornfield. And he wished the dog would go away. But the dog—it was Farmer Green's Sport—the dog had no idea of leaving. He stayed right there and barked so loudly that it was not long before Farmer Green and his hired man came in sight. And with them was Johnnie Green and a little, young dog that had just been given to him.

When Farmer Green saw Fatty he seemed disappointed. "He's too young to bother with," he said. "His skin's not worth much. We'll go home and see what we can find." But Johnnie Green stayed behind. He wanted that young coon. And he intended to have him, too. Leaving the young dog to watch Fatty Coon, Johnnie went back to the farmhouse. After a while he looked again with an anxious eye at his shoulder. And when he began to chop away at the big oak, Fatty Coon felt very uneasy. Whenever Johnnie drove his ax into the tree, both the tree and Fatty shivered together. And Fatty began to wish he had stayed away from the cornfield. But not for long, because Johnnie Green soon gave up the idea of chopping down the big oak. The wood was so hard to cut, and the tree was so big, that Johnnie had not chopped long before he saw that it would take him all night to cut through it. He looked up longingly at Fatty Coon. And Johnnie started to climb the tree himself. But the higher he climbed, the higher Fatty climbed. And Johnnie knew that he could never catch that plump young coon in that way.

At last Johnnie Green started off, calling his dog after him. And then Fatty Coon came down. But he did not go back to the cornfield. He decided that he had had adventures enough for one night. But Fatty had learned something—at least he thought he had. For he made up his mind that once he climbed a tree, no man could reach him. Fatty was not chopped down! That was what Fatty believed. Perhaps you will know, later, whether Fatty ever found out that he was mistaken.

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Common Sense By J. J. MUNDY.

Mix More Than You Do. Isn't it possible, old man, that you are "sticking around home" a little too much for your own good? That is, isn't it really necessary for you to mingle more with men, if you would have them learn more about your ability and capability and thus increase your success?

In your workaday life the men whom you would like to have know of your accomplishments you have no way of meeting. Then how do you expect they will learn to know you? You may think affiliation with lodges, club membership and things of this sort are foolish, but they are the connecting link in the chain of many a man's success.

Acquaintance is valuable, you gain new ideas by association with the right sort of men, men interested in you from mutual ties.

Love your home, but don't forget that you are a man among men, and your home demands the best you can get for it, and that means a certain amount of mingling with men to gain a new viewpoint on life as it is in the world where you earn your living.

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THE GUMPS—

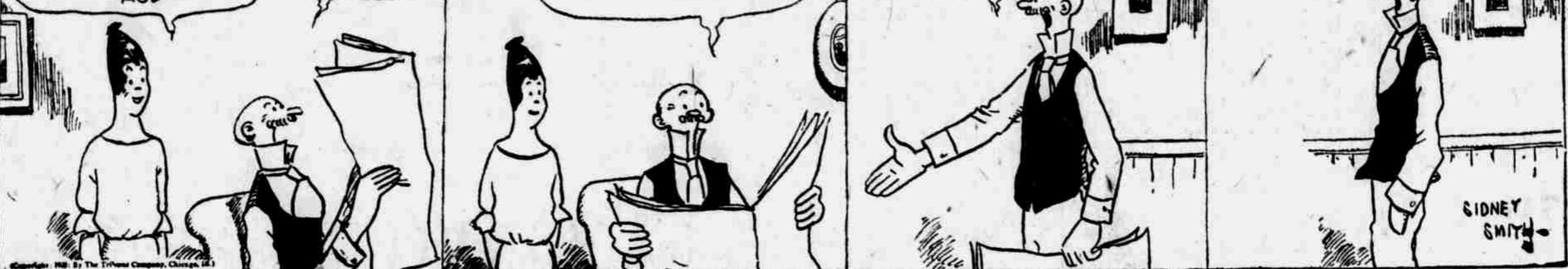
ANDY— I'VE GOT TO BUY A LOT OF THINGS FOR XMAS YET— I HAVEN'T BOUGHT HALF THE THINGS— MRS. NEHOC HAD ALL OF HER XMAS SHOPPING DONE OVER 2 WEEKS AGO—

WELL— IT DIDN'T TAKE HER VERY LONG—

SHE DIDN'T HAVE TO GIVE THE THINGS SO MUCH THOUGHT— SEND OUT A BOX OF WRITING PAPER THAT WILL TAKE ANYTHING BUT INK— SHE'D SEND A PAIR OF SKATES TO A GUY WITH RHEUMATISM—

A HOBBY HORSE TO HER GRAND FATHER AND A JUMPING ROPE TO HER GRAND MOTHER— A SUN SHADE TO A NIGHT WATCHMAN— SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT— JUST AS LONG AS THE PRICE IS RIGHT— THAT'S ALL

SHE'LL SEND 'EM OUT A WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS TOO— SEND OUT A JAPANESE POCKET HANDKERCHIEF AND EXPECT TO GET A PIANO FOR IT—



HOLDING A HUSBAND Adele Garrison's New Phase of Revelations of a Wife

The Way Madge and Dicky Arrived at Their Destination.

"Gettin' cramped, miss?" Jim Pierce smiled genially down at me. "Not a bit," I said, too proud to admit that for several minutes I had experienced no feeling at all in my feet. But our guide evidently saw through my words, for he spoke cheerily:

"It's only a paddle sweep or two more now. You could walk it if it wasn't so deep."

With which unconscious Iberianism he gave an extra strong thrust of his paddle and our boat rounded what proved to be the last curve of our tortuous but far from tedious journey.

Before us the river widened into a large cove, so enclosed by underbrush that at the first glimpse I thought the stream must end unaccountably enough in this miniature lake and be drained by some underground passage. Then I saw one of the canoeists ahead of us, which had already discharged its passengers, being propelled by its guide into a narrow passageway between overhanging cypresses. The depending branches almost swept the craft as it slipped through, and I marvelled anew at the skill of the guides navigating this tortuous stream.

"Now, miss," Jim Pierce brought his canoe up to the rustic pier, where it was caught and firmly held by the eager hands of two young negroes. He held out his hands and grasped my right one firmly. "Take her other hand," he directed Dicky, "and hold her tight. We don't want her tumbling into the Lumbee just as she reaches her journey's end. And I'll bet there ain't a mite of feeling below her knees. I've seen women come off these boats before. Don't know why it don't seem to affect me the same way. Guess they don't wear their shoes so tight."

A Great Relief. I was too grateful for the proffered aid to resent the aspersion against the common sense of feminine footgear. For my legs were really so numb that I am sure I should have fulfilled Jim Pierce's prediction and have tumbled ignominiously into the Lumbee river had not the guide and Dicky come to my aid.

They almost lifted me to the wharf and then, leaning on Dicky's arm, I managed to ascend a short flight of steps to the broad veranda of a most curious but attractive log cabin, or rather series of cabins, connected by covered passageways with each other, which extended along the shore of the river.

Here I sank down on a rustic bench, saved from ignominy by the fact that almost every other woman alighting from the canoes was undergoing the same experience. And then for a few minutes all along the veranda could be heard the soft stamping of feminine feet as we tried to restore the circulation to our numb feet and legs.

Jim Pierce, the man named Tim, and the other guides were busy with their canoes. Some were fastening them in the cove where we had landed; others were taking them on through the narrow passageway I had noted.

"The river must go on past that place through which some of the guides took their canoes," I observed lazily, too content with the return of sensation to my numbed feet really to know what I was saying.

Dicky Decides for Dinner. "Of course, it goes on, goose!" Dick said laughing. "It must, because it's a perfectly good, normal river, headed for the sea. It goes on and on and gets wider and wider."

WHY— Can't We Pick Up Mercury?

In spite of the fact that it has many of the properties of a solid, mercury—or "quicksilver" as it is sometimes called—is really a liquid, the tiny parts of which have a great attraction for each other. It is as a liquid, therefore, that we must consider it, remembering that it is not possible to pick up drops of water, or any other similar substance. A part of the water, it is true, will adhere to the hands and moisten them, but mercury will not do this because of the minute quantities of oil which are always present on the skin, and which cause the quicksilver to slip away.

A quantity of mercury spilled upon a surface will break up immediately into a number of smaller drops or balls, because of the great attraction which the atoms of mercury have for each other. Much the same phenomenon is to be seen when water is spilled upon a powdered table or plate, but, before long, the water will spread over the surface, while mercury will remain in the spheroidal shape because the particles of which it is formed are always pulling toward each other.

DO YOUR XMAS SHOPPING EARLY

Drawn for The Bee by Sidney Smith.

Dog Hill Paragrafts By George Bingham

A flock of wild geese stopped at Fletcher Henstep's pond day before yesterday. Wild geese are very shrewd and even the Deputy Con-



able in disguise could not slip up on them.

Cricket Hicks is expecting a lot of nice presents this Christmas, but takes this method of announcing to his many friends that he already has a necktie.

Tobe Mosely is of the opinion that there will nearly always be at least three political parties in politics, but that there ought never to be more than two in matrimony.

Parents Problems

Which is preferable—that each child of the family give the mother a Christmas present, or that they all combine and give her a single present, together?

This would depend upon circumstances. It might happen one year that the children knew that their mother desired a particular thing, which none could afford to give her separately but which all might give her by combining their funds; this would be manifestly preferable. Another year, there might be various little things that the mother was known to desire; the several children might then preferably give these several things to her, individually.

Drive Nets 561 Members.

Battle Creek, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—As a result of a membership drive in Madison county, the farm bureau now has a total of 561 members.

Billions Outstanding in Unpaid Taxes Is Report

Washington, Dec. 14.—The Treasury department estimates that "more than \$1,000,000,000" is outstanding in unpaid taxes because of the government's inability to audit the returns. Dr. Thomas S. Adams, of the treasury staff, testified today at hearing on taxation before the house ways and means committee.

Because of the complex nature of present revenue laws, Dr. Adams added, the internal revenue bureau has been unable to complete the checking up of tax returns for 1917. He saw no immediate hope of making the audit current with the tax returns filed.

Legion DANCE Legion Band

Tonight - Auditorium

Everybody welcome—makes no difference if you never even saw the army.

That music will snap your toes off if you don't turn 'em loose.

AMERICAN LEGION BAND.

Bogus Minister Is Arrested for Passing Many Forged Checks

Albuquerque, N. M., Dec. 14.—Alexander G. Patterson, of Chicago, alias George B. Thompson, who posed here as a Baptist minister of New York City was arrested today on complaint of the Rev. L. L. Gaines of the Nazarene church who charged he had cashed a worthless check for Patterson. Patterson confessed, according to the police.

Patterson admitted that the check drawn on a Washington, D. C., bank was worthless and that he had no account there, police say. According to an alleged confession to the police Patterson gave worthless checks for \$200 in Washington, D. C., last November and also passed bogus checks since for \$300 in Fort Wayne, Ind., and for \$200 in New York City.

Patterson was a speaker at a local business men's club meeting here last week and created a favorable impression. He had offered to give \$1,000 to a church building fund of the Nazarene church. When arrested he was planning to leave for Mexico, through El Paso, according to the police.

He is 33 years old and says that he has lived in Chicago for the last eight years where he has a divorced wife.

Reichstag on Enforced Rations of Black Bread

Berlin, Dec. 14.—(By The Associated Press.)—The members of the reichstag went on rations of black bread without butter, and coffee without sugar or milk today when the managers and employees of the reichstag restaurant refused to serve the forbidden foods. "In view of the government's apparent intention to continue raising hotels to compel them to obey the rationing regulations,"

The hotel proprietors have closed the restaurants in virtually all the principal hostilities as a protest against the government insisting on obedience to these regulations.

AMUSEMENTS. 12th & WED A. M. AMUSEMENT.

BRANDER TODAY Mat. Ev'ng Last Two Times. Brilliant Musical Comedy TAKE IT FROM ME. THE SHOW THE WHOLE TOWN LOVES. IT'S SOME SHOW ME. Best Looking Xmas in Town. Night—\$1.00, \$2.50. Mat.—50c, \$2.00.

3 Days, Starting Tomorrow Night. Augustus Pitou, Inc., Presents. MAY ROBSON. In a New Comedy—By Allan Dale.

"Nobody's Fool". PRICES: Evenings—Orchestra, \$2.00; Balcony, \$1.50, \$1.00; 2d Balcony, 50c. Saturday Matinee—Orchestra, \$1.50; Balcony, \$1.00; 2d Balcony, 50c.

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Dec. 19, 20, 21, 22. MATINEE WEDNESDAY. Best office sale and mail orders now. No Seats Laid Away or Phone Orders Taken. Prices \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00. RICHARD WALTON TULLY. PRESENTS. GUY BATES. "THE MASQUERADER". The Century's Sensation. Double Revolving Stages. Thematic Music. Triple Electrical Equipment. This case required to transport. No One Seated During Prologue. CURTAIN 2:15-8:15 SHARP.

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