MASTER OF THE MINE

By Robert Buchanan.

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CHAPTER XV. awakened love for Madeline, I failed to fate!" notice for some time the changes which were going on about us; but'I was soon brought from dreamland by the attitude

which the young master chose to take. George Redruth had made up his mind to woo Madeline Graham, and he honored me so far as to fear that my presence in St. Gurlott's might be the means of preventing him winning his cousin's hand. A marriage with Madeline would be advantageous to him, principally because his own position was becoming very insecure, he having gambled and bet away most of his fortune, and so being in danger of losing the position which her money would restore to him. Thus It was that he watched the growing friendship between myself and his consin with ever-increasing anger; and finding he could not openly control her, he determined, I afterward learned, to gain

his ends by treachery. At home things were going very badly with us. My uncle remained in the same wrinkles appeared in my aunt's face. It so much grief remained at home; and I sometimes felt inclined to go right away and not return till I could bring our lost one along with me.

I began to wonder, too, if my mcle could be right when he said that the new flight. This idea had resolutely fixed itsince the night of Annie's disappearance Johnson's face had not been seen in St. Gurlott's. I was pondering over a solution of all these mysteries when one day an event happened which threatened to bring matters to a climax indeed.

I had come up from the mine after a prolonged inspection of it, when suddenly I heard a wild sound of voices, and looking round I saw two men facing each other, and looking as if they were about to close in a deadly grip. One of the men was my uncle, the other was Johnson, the overreer.

At sight of the man whom he believed to be his bitterest foe, all my uncle's feebleness seemed to fall miraculously from him. He towered above the other, and raised his elenched fist as if to strike.

"You villain!" he cried. "You cowardmy lass? Tell me, or I strike 'ee dead he shook his fist in my face. before me!"

and caught it with a cry. My uncle tried to wrench himself free.

"I told 'ee what I'd do if I met the quietly knocked him down, villain, and I'll do it. Look at 'un, the in' about the earth in misery maybe, he cooms yar to laugh at us!"

I still held him firmly; and Johnson, cur that he was, Seeing that the danger was passed, recovered his presence of mind. "Perhaps, now you're a little calmer,"

ing about?" "I will answer for him," I replied.

"Where is Annie Pendragon?" He shrugged his shoulders, and raised

"It seems to me you are all having lunatics together. Why do you ask me these things? What do I know of the girl?" "You were seen with her in Falmouth.

My uncle had learned that this was true. "I don't know where she is. I met

her in Falmouth, it's true, and spoke to " her; but her being away from home was no concern o' mine." "It's a lie!" cried my uncle, fiercely:

and again he tried to free himself from my grasp, but I held him firmly. "It's no use." I said: "we shan't mend matters with him. We must find out by some other means whether or not he is

speaking the truth.' The result of all this was a serious illness, which laid my uncle low, and for then." some weeks threatened his life. During time passed, and he rose from his bedthe feeble, wornout wreck of his old self.

From that day forth his intellect seemed shaken, but he clung with strange perrefusing to share this belief; neverthe- frosty road. less, I saw the overseer again, and after the interview with him, I became more was wrong in his surmises.

Meantime, having seen my uncle on the high road to recovery, I was comthe mine, which grew every day more dangerous. I had spoken to the master her hand upon my arm. of these dangers again and again, and he had taken no heed. Nevertheless, I knew that something must be done; I resolved to make one last appeal to him. I had fully made up my mind to seek him at home, when I was spared the pains. He strolled down to the counting house one morning in company with Johnson. "Mr. Redruth," I said, approaching

him, "I should like to speak a few words with you, sir." He looked at me from head to foot

with a cold, supercilious sneer which sent | years come and gone since we were chilmy blood up to boiling heat, as he re-

"Well, you can speak, then-I am all attention. "It is about the mine," I began, when

he interrupted me. "Oh, the mine!" he said, impatiently; "I think I have heard a good deal on

this subject from you before?" "You have, sir, and you have taken no heed; but the time has passed for all that-each day the danger grows, and be my friend!"

now at any moment the sea may break in and every soul be killed!" "Do the men know of the danger which

you say is threatening them?" "Most assuredly they do."

"And do they refuse to work?" "No; where would be the use? If they left the mine, they would be thrown out of employment, and then their families

their own lives in their hands than to ex-Absorbed as I was in my newly pose their wives and children to such a

"Very good; then, since by your own showing you are the only discontented

spirit, it's time for you to go." "I have been expecting this for a long time, and it has come. Well, so much the better," I retorted. "I warn you, however, that I shall do my duty, and let the company know the exact state of affairs.

He turned to Johnson, and I saw the two exchange a significant smile; then his face hardened as he replied, contemptuously:

"You will, of course, do as you please; only oblige me by getting out of my employment as quickly as possible."

"It will be a good riddance!" muttered Johnson, breaking in for the first time. "Trelawney has always, been a croaker."

"I'll croak to some tune," I cried, fac-

ing him, "if you presume to talk to me!" "Presume, indeed!" he repeated, turning white with fear or malice. "'Tain't desponding state, while every day fresh must presumption, I guess, to take down a young cock-o'-the-walk who puts on seemed a sin for me to be happy while airs as if he was a gentleman. If Mr. George had listened to my advice, he'd have got rid of you long ago." "Come along, Johnson," said Redruth; night!"

"he's not worth talking to." But I clenched my fists and blocked the way. I suppose there was something overseer had a hand in poor Annie's in my face which looked ugly, for the two men recoiled before me. Several of self in his mind. It was strange, but the miners, attracted by our high words, had now gathered, and were looking on in astonishment.

> "I know well an honest man is not wanted here," I said. "I've known that for many a long day. Like master, like man. You, sir, want a scoundrel to do your dirty work; and here he is, ready made, to your hand-as mean and cowardly a scoundrel as ever drew breath!" 'Out of the way, you ruthan!" cried Redruth, lifting his cane.

> But he knew better than to strike me: he knew that, if he had done so, I would have thrashed him within an inch of his life; and he knew, too, that not one man there would have raised a finger to proteet him, though he was the master of the mine.

But the presence of the onlookers, I suppose, made his companion foolhardy; ly, treacherous villain! Tell me, whar is for, stepping forward, livid with passion,

"Who are you calling a scoundrel?" In another moment the arm would be cried. "Do you know who I am? I'm have descended, for Johnson was par- overseer of this here mine, and you, alyzed with fear; but I sprang forward you're a beggar, that's what you are! He had proceeded thus far when, without more parley, unable to resist the "Let gaw, Hugh!" he cried, fiercely. provocation of his close proximity, I

As he fell, George Redruth sprang towhite-faced cur; he brought trouble to ward me, and struck at me with his cane; my lass! And naw, while she's wander- but I tore the cane from his hand, broke it into pieces, and flung it away.

"Take care, sir!" I said, "I may hurt you, too, if you go too far." He drew back, trembling. It was not for hours afterwards that I realized what I had done; and even then I am afraid I did not regret my hasty conduct. Young he said, "you'll tell me what you're rav- and rash, I did not fear to face the world, though the mine was my bread, and I had no other means of maintenance.

CHAPTER XVI.

The news of my dismissal from the mine was received by my aunt with infinite wailing. The poor soul, knowing that for some time past I had been the mainstay of the house, saw nothing be fore her but misery and starvation; indeed, she was for going straight to Redruth House and appealing to the master, but I checked her.

"Don't grieve, aunt," I said. "It will be all right by and by. Say I am dismissed from the mine-what then? The mine isn't all the world. I shall get something, never fear. I'm going up to London, aunt."

"To Lunnon! And what for?" "I am going up to see the company, and tell them what's going on at the mine. Keep your mind easy till I come back, aunt. 'Twill, maybe, all be right

When all was ready, I stepped down this time Madeline came frequently to to the village to tell John Rudd to call the cottage, accompanied by Anita, who for me on the morrow, when he was to carried little tempting things for the poor start before daybreak. Having done old man to eat. At last, the terrible my errand, I strolled slowly back to the cottage.

It was a splendid night. All the earth, hardened by the keen touch of frost, was flooded by the brilliant moonrays; sistence to the one idea that Johnson was and the sky was thick with stars. All in some way responsible for all that had was so quiet and peaceful I could hear taken place. I had my own reasons for the click clack of my footsteps on the

My mind was sorely troubled, I walked up and down the road and turned to refirmly convinced than ever that my uncle enter the cottage, when I started back with a half-suppressed cry. There, not very far from me, standing in the shadow of one of the laurel bushes in Annie's pelled once more to turn my attention to garden, was the tall figure of a woman. She came quickly toward me, and laid

"Madeline!" I murmured, for it was indeed she, dressed in her evening dress. with her mantle thrown lightly over her head and shoulders, and her dear face raised wistfully to mine.

"Mr. Trelawney," she said, quietly, "is it true that you have been dismissed from the mine?

"Yes; it is quite true, Miss Graham." "Oh, why will you not be as you were just now, and call me Madeline?" she cried passionately. "Why have all those dren, and left us so far apart, Mr. Trelawney? Hugh, let us be children again; I was your help and solace once, let me be so to-night!

She had spoken truly-why should a few years separate us? Once before she had offered me her friendship and I had accepted it; why not accept it now? I took her hand and kised it.

"You shall be the same to me now as you were then!" I answered, "you shall

I think she understood me. She made no reply, but for a moment she turned her head aside; when she looked at me again, she was as calm as the moonrays which lay all about her.

"Tell me what has happened," she said, "and what you are going to do." "Very little has happened," I replied. "I have got the dismissal which I have would starve. Better for them to hold all along expected, and I am going told me to say."

********* | away. You will get your death; let me

I drew the shawl closer about her shoulders, put her hand upon my arm, and led her away. "Hugh," she said, presently, "you

have not told me the cause of all this

trouble. Why have you and my cousin disagreed so terribly?" "There is nothing," I said, "but what had best be kept between man and man."

"Then you absolutely refuse to make any concession?" "I refuse to receive any favor from

George Redruth." "I am rich, you know-very rich, and now that you are in trouble I might help

"No," I answered, quickly; "don't think of it. It is impossible." I walked with her as far as the entrance to the grounds surrounding Redand her little hand clung to mine with a persistence which well-nigh unmanned me. I was too much beside myself to face to face with a man who had evidently been following close upon my heels. It was Johnson,

Madeline's softening influence was erill paused, blocking my way, and sneeringly addressed me:

"I guess, young man," he said, "you'll get into worse trouble before you're

that lady's name again and by heaven, I'll strike you dead where you stand?" "Oh," he sneered, "killing's your game, is it? Repeat that to-morrow before witnesses, young man, and your doom is

ward the mine, while I, glad at heart to be safely away from him, walked with some speed toward home. I found my aunt alone; I asked for my uncle. "He be gone back to the mine, Hugh,"

'un hame.' morning, I took my aunt's advice and went to bed. When I awoke it was still pitch dark. I struck a light, and found

that it was four o'clock. I therefore got

graveled or macadamized pike road a up and began to prepare for my jourcarrier can easily make twenty-five I went about my work as quietly as miles a day six times a week. With poscible, hoping to disturb no one; but the roads as they are, it is a question shortly after I entered the kitchen my whether the next Congress will not be uncle appeared fully dressed for the day. called upon to add another \$4,000,000 He looked so white and strange that, for a moment, I was startled into the belief that something was rhe matter. As noth ing seemed to have transpired, however,

How the memory of that white, wan face came back to me in after days! It farms. In the spring this work disapwas the memory of it, and of the patient, pears. Nothing permanent remains, pitiful eyes, which sealed my lips when ne word might have proved my salva-

I concluded it was sorrow at parting with

When John Rudd made his appearance and my aunt came out of the bedroom. and began crying on my shoulder, I saw the wan, sad eyes of my uncle still fixed upon me. As I left the cottage, I looked back and found them gazing after me still.

(To be continued.)

HIS CHECK WAS NO GOOD.

A Place Where a Dollar in the Hand Was Worth Two in the Bank.

A check for \$5, signed by a man providing they have neither bank account nor commercial rating.

The \$5 check came from a Con- tained by local authority. necticut manufacturing town. It was drawn on a local bank and signed by this country lives in the cities and vil-The man who received it is fairly well It is not fair or just to place the enalways been on a salary, and he does shoulders of the farmer. The general

city offices.

no cash on hand."

to-day. I'm short."

phatic answer.

listening to the request, silently point- mud at the bottom. ed to a sign over the bar, which read: "No checks cashed here."

money when it was reported as paid, aid in the construction of highways,

City Journal, and he concluded that cause the public interest demands it; he would rather have small sums sent the progress of the age demands it, in letters, without even the precaution the welfare and development of the of registration, as long as he was un- country at large demand it, and it is able to have a bank account or a bound to come in spite of those who rating.

Wanted to Have It Over.

"Mamma," said Bennie, as there do it pretty soon I'll forget what you claims that experience shows that the



Rural Free Delivery an Ald. At the recent International Good Roads Convention, at St. Louis, Hon. Frank E. Nevins, of the United States Postoffice Department, delivered an

address in which he said:

"The establishment of the rural free ruth House, then I left her. Her eyes delivery of mail throughout the counwere full of tears as she said good-by, try has produced a marked improvement in the condition of the highways. When there is a prospect of rural free return to the cottage, so for about half delivery in a community, work immea mile I followed the road which led to diately begins on the roads. There he mine. It was late, there was not a are how in operation 23,000 rural living soul abroad it seemed to me; yet, routes over which carriers travel 550,as I turned to retrace my steps, I came 000 miles delivering mail to about 9,000,000 people. More than 15,000 bridges have been constructed over streams that would not have been upon me. Yet at sight of this evil face built if it had not been for the estabit seemed to fade, and there arose with- lishment of the free delivery system. in me all that was worst in my soul. He Nearly every portion of the country, where road conditions will warrant it, is now supplied with this service. But in many sections the bad conditions of done. Jest you let the governor ree you the roads, or the lack of bridges, preas I saw you with Miss Graham to vent the extension of the service. The rural carrier of a standard route is "You scoundrel!" I cried, "mention now expected to travel about twentyfive miles each day to earn his salary of \$600 a year. He is required to furnish and maintain his own outfit and team, and to give a bond of \$500 for the faithful performance of his duties. He passed me by, and walked on to- Experience has demonstrated that this distance is too great on account of the bad condition of the roads. So many carriers have resigned, thereby causing much confusion and labor in the she returned. "But dawn't 'ee sit up for department, that the Congress just ad-'un, lad. I daresay Jim Rivers'll bring journed has been compelled to add \$170 a year to the salaries of the car-As I knew I should have to be ready riers of the country. This increase of to join John Rudd at five o'clock in the salarles amounts to about \$4,000,000 a year additional that the department has to pay to maintain this service on account of bad roads. Over a good

to the salaries of the carriers. "Under the road laws of most of the Western States at the present time work is done upon the roads in the fall by the various road districts, when there is no work to be done on the and the roads are in as bad condition, or worse, than they were before. The cost of \$2,000 to \$8,000 a mile for the construction of hard roads in this Western country is too great, in most instances, for road districts, townships and countles to bear; neither is it right that they should bear the entire cost. The public at large, which shares directly or indirectly in the benefits, should contribute to the expense. There never will be good roads in this country until the National Government takes the initiative in this movement. and the respective States of the Union who could well be rated as one of join in with liberal contributions, and the "captains of industry," proved to this again is supplemented by local be an almost worthless piece of paper enterprise. Continental Europe, Engin the hands of its recipient a few land and Ireland are covered with days ago. It served to illustrate the hard broad pikes built at the expense difficulty which people have in han- of the governments of those countries. dling such pieces of financial paper. No country in the world ever yet had or ever will have permanent and passable highways constructed and main-

"Sixty per cent of the population of a merchant credited with millions. lages; 40 per cent lives in the country. known about New York City. He has tire burden of good roads upon the not happen to have a bank account. public shares directly or indirectly in It also happened that he needed the the benefits and should bear the excash at once, so he first took the pense of an equitable tax for this purcheck to an acquaintance in one of the pose on all assessable values. The weight of it upon the individual would "Can you cash this for me?" he then be as light as a summer shadow. While this specter of taxation may "Sorry, old man, but we have made frighten some of our skittish country our deposits for the day and there is friends and cause them to rear and plunge a little, they will find on closer Then the check holder tried his inspection that the goblin is a harmtailor, who explained: "Can't do it less creation of the imagination. They will get back in benefits ten times "Will you indorse this for me and more than they will pay out in taxes.

help me to get the money?" said the "Why some of our friends spurn seeker for cash to another friend who Government aid when it is offered was well acquainted at a bank near them I cannot understand. They claim to be opposed to it on principle, and "Against my rules," was the em- can see no good in it. There are some people so constructed that when look-"Take it to a saloonkeeper," sug- ing into a pool of water they can nevgested another man. The advice was er see the sky and the clouds above It accepted, but the proprietor, after reflected on its surface, but only the

"This Government never fails to do the right thing in the end. It will not Other tribulations followed the pos- fail to do the right thing in this insessor of the check, until finally he stance. The impetus given to this found a good Samaritan, who kindly movement by a few progressive statesconsented to deposit it in his own men who introduced measures in Conbank for collection and turn over the gress last winter authorizing national It was ten days before the needy one will ultimately produce the results obtained his money, says the Kansas aimed at. It cannot fall to do so beraise their voices in opposition to it."

Fewer Deaths by War. If a French writer on military subcame a brief pause in the conversation jects is correct, the advocates of peace on the part of the callers, "isn't it time can no longer fall back upon war's infor you to ask me what I learned at creasing destructiveness to human life the kindergarten to-day? If you don't as an argument. On the contrary, he greater the destructive power of mod-

ern rifles and artillery the less is the percentage of men killed. During the Seven Years' War betwen Germany and Austria and the dynastic wars of the eighteenth century the rival armies opened fire at a distance of one hundred yards, and after the first few volleys charged with the bayonet or pike. The average loss in these wars was seventeen per cent of the total number of combatants. During the time of the Civil Revolution and the Napoleonic era the losses were sixteen per cent. In the Italian war and Crimean war, with improved weapons, the loss fell to fourteen per cent. In 1866, in the war of Prussla against Austria, with improved needle-guns and greater distance, the losses were soul seven per cent. In the Franco-Prussian war the losses sank to five per die, cent. This is both fortunate and unfortunate, according to one's view- ing. point. But the financial argument for peace cannot be gainsaid.

INVISIBLE HANDWRITING.

Transfer Left by Ink Which May Be Readily Developed. In writing with certain forms of ink on ordinary paper, placing the sheet after thorough blotting in contact with refine. a white sheet of paper, it is possible to make on this latter an invisible trans- binds the church and the devil. ference, which, as M. A. Bertillon has shown, may be rendered visible by the ject to the vagaries of fashion. use of certain methods. In fact, a letter placed for several hours between thies down to lift the world up. the leaves of a book will leave its secret in this book, and a faisification in a ledger may be proved by the ex-

amination of the page against which the falsified page rests. A Swiss investigator (R. A. Reiss, of Lausanne) has recently made investi- knowledge unless you can grind it. gations in reference to the above phenomenon and in reference to the conditions under which it may be pro- gain, duced. It appears that the formation of the image depends principally proven by arguments on the baseness on the lnk, although it was discovered of others, that the latent image may be produced by nearly one-half of the inks in current use, out of thirteen different varieties of lnk seven having produced a Fewer Blondes than Bruncttes in State positive result. It further appeared that the formation of the image depended upon the presence of acids in across a pamphlet published by the is colored mixture, the gum and the sugar having no part in the phenomena, although the paper on which the regarding the complexion of the inwriting has been placed gives different mates of the State Insane Asylum," results. The best results were obtained Hobart Langdon said to a St. Louis with paper well sized and polished, for Globe-Democrat man, "Only 3 per the reason that the contact in this case cent of the total had light hair, and is closer, thus favoring the production only 2 per cent blue eyes.

of the Image. ron, an ordinary flatiron, which is held in place until the paper is slightly browned, after which the image will appear sometimes very clear and complete. The other method does not make any change in the paper to be examined, and consists in placing in contact with the latter a sheet of nitrate of silver photographic paper for several hours-six to twelve-the two sheets being exposed to the light. The photographic paper will completely blacken, but the latent image will stand forth very distinctly. It should be stated that the leaf on which a latent image exists loses this image by contact with water or alcohol.-Paris

I'Illustration. The Great Russian Lake.

in the Oriental situation, is a somewith which it swarms.

Lake Balkal is the third largest body Aral seas are the two larger. Both are salt, however, while Balkal is fresh. It is, therefore, the largest fresh water lake in Asia, and the sixth in size in the world, the five Great Lakes of area. Its waters occupy a remarkable tom of the lake is, in some places, more than 3,000 feet below the sea level. Its depth is, therefore, 4,500 feet in the deepest parts.

The lake is 330 miles long, and from nine and a quarter to forty miles wide. Its waters are a deep blue, and remarkably clear. There are a number geon and other fisheries is about one hundred and sixty thousand dollars. Fresh water seals are abundant, and they are caught for their fur. It receives the waters of several syeams, the main one being the Sainega River, eight hundred miles long. The upper An old sailor shakes him. Angara River, also of considerable size, enters its northeastern end. Its there's a waterspout on the starboard outlet is the Lower Angara, on which bow bearing right down on us."

Irkutsk is situated. The reason why the Siberian Railroad was not bullt around the southern end of the lake is that the solid rock down by a mass of water descending of the mountains reaches to the wa. on him like a wet mountain. He ter's edge, and the task would be her. struggles to his feet, gasping, sputculean. Events in the East may compel it nevertheless.

Consolation. It may be dat yo'sweetheart Done lef' you feelin' blue, But de melon coolin' in de well Wid a ripe, red heart fer you! Atlanta Constitution.

Consider the other side. You may be unreasonable.

RAM'S HORN BLASTS.

Warning Notes Calling the Wicked to Repentance.



RELF - SEARCHing will cure self-seeking. The soul is the secret of civili-

> gation. The dutiful are seldom the doubting. They who de-

fer decision incur death. Sin sears over the senses of the

There are no shipwrecks in a pud-

Character is fashioned by chasten-

He who seeks honor oft finds a har-

Fanaticism is the greatest foe of

God puts out no light because it is

little. The law consumes where it cannot

There is no blessing in the tie that

The garment of holiness is not sub-

The church must keep her sympa-The hope of the world is in that to

which our hearts turn in sorrow. The Parent of all cannot bonor those

who fall to honor their parents, There is no value in your grist of

There is a difference between the gain of godliness and the godliness of

The beauty of Christ cannot be

COMPLEXION AND INSANITY

Insane Asylum.

"Several months ago I happened government of a Southern State in which were some interesting statistics

"It struck me as a rather curious The duration of the contact is not fact that dark-haired and dark-eyed necessarily long, in general about an people should so largely predominate hour, while in order to reveal the lin. among the insane, but the matter of age two very simple measures are re. latitude might play some part in this, sorted to. The first method is to ap. I thought; for naturally there were ply the back of the sheet on which the more dark than light-haired people in latent image is supposed to be a warm that section. Just as a matter of curiosity, however, I thought I would write to asvium authorities in certain other parts of the country to see what the ratio of light-haired inmates was to those who were dark, and expected to find the percentage increase in communifles where the total of light-haired was larger, but in this I was mistaken, so I am led to infer from the statistics I gathered that there is a greater possibility for insanity among dark-

haired than among light-haired people, "My figures were obtained from sixty-eight asylums, located in nearly every State in the Union, and a few in Canada and England. The total number of patients in these institutions was 16.512, of whom 708 had light hair, and only sixty-six red or auburn locks, In other words, 96 per cent of the in-Lake Baikal, which figures so much mates were brunettes, with either black or brown hair, the latter in varywhat remarkable body of water. Its ing shades. In one asylum in New name is a corruption of the Turkish England there was not a single in-Bel-kul, "rich lake"—the reference be mate that was not a brunette. Of ing, presumably to the valuable fish course, I do not know how to account for this, for I am not a specialist in such matters, and only secured the staof water in Asia. The Caspian and tistics out of pure curiosity, but it certainly looks as though blondes were less liable to insanity than those with

darker hair or eyes. "Another peculiar feature about the facts I obtained, however, was that the North America each exceeding it in percentage of those regarded as incurably insane was much greater depression in the vast plateau of Cen- among the blondes than among the tral Asia. The level of its waters is brunettes. The totals show that among 1,300 feet above the sea, while the bot. the dark-haired inmates only 53 per cent were marked hopelessly insane. while among the blondes 81 per cent were put in this category, and that only three among the red-haired patients escaped the same classification."

A Boy at Sea.

A waterspout is one of the first things a green sailor boy wants to of islands in it; the largest Olkhon, is see. He has read about it as one of forty-two miles long. There are nu- the wonders of the sea, and it rouses merous hot springs on the shores, and his keenest curiosity. He gets the old earthquake vibrations are frequent. sailors to promise to call him when The annual value of its salmon, stur- one is sighted. They promise, winking

stealthly at each other. The ship gets down into tropical waters, and the boy it told that a waterspout may be coming along almost any time.

One night he is awakened suddenly. "Come on! Hurry up, young feller:

The boy hastens up the companionway without waiting to dress, and as he starts out on deck he is thrown

tering: "W-a-a-s tha-a-t a wa-a-a-ter spout?" The sailors are around him, roaring. Then he looks up above the companionway and sees an empty hogshead. Having seen and felt the waterspout, he descends to his bunk, wipes himself dry, and turns in. Next time waterspouts in great numbers may be reported on both bows, but he will have no particular desire to observe them.