

He Was Willing to be a Porter.

A True Story.

THEODORE B. WILSON.

"I met him one morning in December," said a friend of his, who relates the story, "and he told me that he was worth one hundred thousand dollars' which he had made in railroad stocks. A year later he told me he was not worth a dollar, and I loaned him five dollars to keep him alive.

"Soon after, I observed that he had been brooding over his misfortunes until his mind was almost unbalanced. I told him that he must go to work. He replied that he would try, and would not refuse any kind of labor.

"Across the street he saw a man rolling barrels out of a store. He asked the man if he knew of any work.

"I believe they want another porter here," said the man, "that's the only work I know of." In he went and secured the position.

"He began the trucking and barrel-rolling, which, for a time, tore the soft skin off his hands and made his back stiff with pain.

"His employers were dealers in paint and oil, in a large eastern city. Not very long after my friend had taken the position as a porter, a vacancy occurred in the canning department. The new porter had shown himself to be a particularly faithful and intelligent man, and his employers decided to try him in the vacant place.

"For nearly a year he kept at his work. The firm noticed that he was an exceedingly good man for the place, but there was no vacant position higher up the ladder. At length, the Civil War came, and the paint-and-oil firm was caught with large outstanding sums in the South, and began to look about for some representative to go there. Someone suggested that the superintendent of the canning department might be a good man to send. He was asked if he could furnish references. He said that he could, and gave the names of some of his friends. When inquiries were made, his friends said that he was an intelligent

and capable man, and could fill any position.

"He was sent on the difficult commission. The markets were in a fitful condition, and those who were owing the firm hardly knew their own standing and the value of their stock from day to day. But the agent acted discreetly. Where he could not settle for cash, he took anything the concerns had and turned it over. So shrewd was his judgment that he could not only cover his claims, but in some cases made enormously profitable settlements. One instance of this happened at New Orleans. Through favors he secured, he was permitted to negotiate with some houses there which owed his employers, but had nothing to settle with unless he could take turpentine and linsed oil. Knowing that these articles would bring four or five times, in the North, what they were offered to him for, he accepted the offers.

"At length, all the business was settled and he returned home, and was again placed in the canning department. But his employers sent for him, and said, "We have a better place for you." They asked him to figure up what his time was worth from the beginning. They took him into the office, and made him their credit man.

"He served them in that capacity for some years at a fine salary. Before he left the firm, he was again worth one hundred thousand dollars."

Not every young man who is willing to begin at the bottom and work can depend upon similar advancement. But it is true that, if a young man has capacity, he is far more likely to win if he is not afraid of hard and humble work. —[Ex.

Teach Them to Work.

All India Schools, except Carlisle Haskell and Hampton, are ordered not to go beyond the eighth grade in their literary work, and the most of the schools must not exceed the sixth grade work. This is a wise order and should be complied with readily in all the schools effected. There