



ON THE STILL RIVER

There was considerable ill-feeling between the two camps. It all began with Billy Chetwynde declaring that he could paddle from Silver Glen dam to the railroad bridge in twenty minutes. Nobody had ever thought of doing it in less than twenty-five before, and Hal Burgess, who heard Billy's boasting from the other tent, stuck his head through the flap and said:

"What you crowing about, Billy? Do you want to make a new record for Still River?"

"I can do a better sprint than you, anyway, Mr. Smurgle!" exclaimed Billy, shying a saucer-pan at Hal's head. But the head was immediately withdrawn and there was only Hal's muffled laugh in reply to the missile, and that was all the beginning. But the ending—

Hal took it up the next morning as soon as Billy appeared. "When you going to make that wonderful record, Billy?" he asked, and before the day was over, we were all squabbling over the individual paddling of both crews. Nothing would satisfy us but a chance tournament in which every member of the Chetwynde crew was pitted against some member of the Burgess fraternity. Now take my advice whenever two parties of school friends camp out near each other so that there is no racing or trials of dexterity. At least if you want a quiet time.

There isn't a more peaceful spot in all the State than the stretch of quiet waters known as Still River. But from the day Billy and Hal got to squabbling over who could make the best time between the dam and the railroad bridge, the two tents full of fellows were in a continual squabble. Before we were all having a jolly good time and every fellow behaved himself. But after the "mild-eyed angel of peace" folded his wings and fled—well, as my young brother Teddy remarked with great freedom of speech, "the Kilkenny cats weren't in it!"

The race came off, and naturally the greatest excitement was over the trial between Billy and Hal. Both had the

evening train, which reached the Glen at about 11, and the hands had a whole day to talk and get filled up on Sam Pickle's whisky. They'd be in line fighting humor by night.

"Most of us forgot the recent race and a good many of our differences in the strike excitement. But Billy Chetwynde was as gloomy as an owl and spent most of the day on the river. He couldn't get over his action with the hands. Hereafter Hal and him had been as 'thick as thieves'—the chummiest chums in the school—and I don't know but the fact that they were no longer friends really troubled Billy more than being beaten in the canoe race."

Hal didn't show up at supper time, and Fred, who came down from the Glen early in the afternoon, said he was worried. The temper of some of the strikers was bad and Fred said he feared Hal had got into trouble. Billy, when he heard this, got out his canoe again before paddling up stream. What happened after that we only know from Billy's own story, and for a wonder, as it is hard work to get Billy to talk about it even now.

He paddled up to the dam to see if he could hear or see anything of Hal. It was getting dusk on the river, and as he went up near the west bank he was entirely in the shadow. Some of the men—maybe half a dozen of them—were talking together under the dam on the west side, having evidently met there by appointment. Billy's canoe again before paddling up stream. What happened after that we only know from Billy's own story, and for a wonder, as it is hard work to get Billy to talk about it even now.

Well, Billy was inclined to "blow" on all occasions, and he had done an extra amount of bragging before this race, so perhaps it served him right to be beaten. But I hated to see Hal do it. Hal was always so awfully "topping" when he got the best of a fellow. Billy had declared that he could make the distance in less than twenty minutes, and he was just twenty-one minutes and seven seconds in getting over the course, according to Freddy Maxwell's stop-watch, while Hal got in a little over nineteen minutes.

Well, the Burgess crowd was, of course, too unbearably fresh to live with after that, and when it was discovered that Ned Chetwynde, Billy's cousin, had invited Hal's brother Dave around behind the tents and thrashed him royally, we older fellows, who should have frowned upon any such proceeding, never took either of the youngsters to task.

So these were the strained relations existing between the two camps on the day the mill hands at Silver Glen struck. We heard they were going to strike the day before, for Jim Nolan, Hal's father's gardener, drove by on his way to Lonsdale and told us about it. Mr. Burgess was one of the chief owners of the mill, and Nolan had been sent to telegraph him to come up from New York and settle the trouble with the men. All the old hands liked Mr. Burgess and they would listen to him, knowing that he would give them fair treatment.

But the men who were stirring up all the trouble at the mill did not want Hal's father as arbitrator, and therefore the message was to be sent him from Lonsdale so that there would be less liability of the strikers learning of it. I thought myself that old Nolan was a pretty leaky sort of fellow to be let into the secret, for if he'd tell a party of school boys like us, why wouldn't he tell other people?

TELEPHONES IN THE NAVY.

Our Warships Equipped with a New Set of Signals.

The present war between this country and Spain is credited with hastening the equipment of United States naval vessels with a new signaling system. The apparatus of the Telephones Company, of Buffalo, has been approved by the United States Navy Department, and several sets are being ordered. As the navy ships and telephones is considered the most rapid, most powerful and effective night signal system yet invented. It consists of a series of four double lanterns, lighted by powerful groups of incandescent lamps, the four double lanterns being hung vertically on a single pole, the upper end of which can be run up to a mast or yardarm, while the lower end is intended to be fastened to the deck of the vessel. The upper half of each lamp is white and has within it a group of three lamps surrounded by powerful magnifying lenses. The lower half is red, and has a single lamp in the center. The operator, in order to make the red beam the stronger, which are surrounded by heavy red lenses.

The carefully insulated cable connects the lamps and passes from the lower one to the deck or bridge, where a key on the keyboard is connected to the code signals about as rapidly as a typewriter is manipulated, and very much in the same manner. The keyboard is arranged on a standard and inclosed like a binocular, the operator standing in front of it while manipulating the keys. By a simple manipulation of the keys, as depressed, lights a combination of the four red and four white lights, making a letter or a number, according to the code of signals. All of these operations are automatic and the combination is made by one touch of the key. Another feature of the keyboard is that when one letter is down all the other keys are locked so that another cannot be accidentally pushed down and confuse the signals.

Any key pressed down can be turned one-quarter way around, like a screw, which means locks it in place, and leaves the signal burning in case it is desired to use it as a standing signal for an order in the secret naval code. Thus the keyboard can be used to telegraph ordinary instructions by the usual letters, to send a cipher dispatch or special code signals. Notwithstanding all this apparent complication, the keyboard is compact and its mechanism so simple that it cannot be readily disturbed or gotten out of order.

A Memory.

How dear to this heart are the old-fashioned dresses. When fond recollection presents them to view!

In fact, I see the old wardrobes and presses Which held the loved gowns that in girlhood I knew. The wide spreading mohair, the silk that hung by it. The straw-colored satin with trimmings of brown. The russet toward, the pink organdie high light. But, oh, for the pocket that hung in each gown! The old-fashioned pocket, the obsolete pocket. The praiseworthy pocket that hung in each gown.

That dear, roomy pocket I'd hail as a treasure. Could I but behold it in gowns of to-day; I'd find it the source of an exquisite pleasure. But all my modesties sternly answer me "Nay!" 'Twould be so convenient when going out shopping. 'Twould hold my small purchases coming from town; And always my purse or my kerchief I'm dropping—Oh, me, for the pocket that hung in my gown. The old-fashioned pocket, the obsolete pocket. The praiseworthy pocket that hung in my gown.

A gown with a pocket! How fondly I'd guard it! Each day ere I'd don it I'd brush it with care! Not a full Paris costume could make me discard it. Though trimmed with the latest empress might wear it. But I have no hope, for the fashion is banished; The tear of regret will my fond visions drown; As fancy reverts to the days that have vanished, I sigh for the pocket that hung in my gown. The old-fashioned pocket, the obsolete pocket. The praiseworthy pocket that hung in my gown.

Some Long Beards.

Perhaps the best-known beard in the United States is that of ex-Senator Peffer, of Kansas, which was said to measure three feet long, but there are many which exceed that in size. The museums frequently contain men five feet and over whose beards sweep the floor when they stand up, but perhaps the longest of all is that of Legrand Larow, of Lamar, Mo., which is said to exceed any other in the world. It is seven feet in length, and has measured seven and one-half feet. Mr. Larow was born in Tompkins County, New York, in 1852, and his relatives are noted for heavy beards, but not extraordinary length. He is six feet in height and weighs 175 pounds. When standing with his beard down it extends two feet up the floor. He has not shaved for over twenty years. In the year 1879 Mr. Larow went West, and was a farmer and stock raiser for many years. He wears his beard braided and wound around his body, or else wrapped and lodged inside his vest—Boston Transcript.

Dean Stanley's Handwriting.

Dean Stanley, though he wrote letters so illegible that his correspondents had to guess at the meaning of his scrawls, was loved because he was transparent and guileless. The first proofs of his "Sinal and Palestine" informed the reader that from the monastery of Sinal was visible "the horns of the burning beast." The dean thought he had written "the horns of the burning beast." The same proofs stated that on turning the shoulder of Mount Olivet in the walk from Bethany, "there suddenly burst upon the spectator a magnificent view of—Jones!" The printer had read "Jerusalem"—the dean's abbreviated way of writing "Jerusalem"—as "Jones."

Once a lady who had invited him to dine was obliged to write back and ask whether his note was an acceptance or a refusal. A workman, to whose question the dean had written an answer, wrote him humbly requesting that the reply might be written out by someone else, "as he was not familiar with the handwriting of the aristocracy!"

It is easy to walk the tight-rope of society if you have a good bank balance.

One of the surest ways to make a mistake is to permit an "agent" to use your name in his scheme.

Rocky Mountain News.

Stilly Sadler.

"It is said," murmured the Musing Theorizer, "to think that every man has his price."

"Yes," admitted the Intensely Practical Worker, "and it is a sad fact that half the time he can't get it."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The practice of kicking upon the occasion of every little grievance, grows until it becomes such a habit that you must kick, whether you have a grievance or not.



Victorious

A Modish Idea.

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Crude Oil in Road Work.

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Optim eating has become a habit with the Kafirs in South Africa. The Chinese are the chief purveyors of the drug.

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Centennial of Electricity.

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The leaf of a creeping moss found in the West Indies, known as the "life plant," is absolutely indestructible by any means except immersion in boiling water or the application of a red-hot iron.

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Gillingham, England, had a grave digger aged 75. In 97 years he had buried over 12,000 persons.

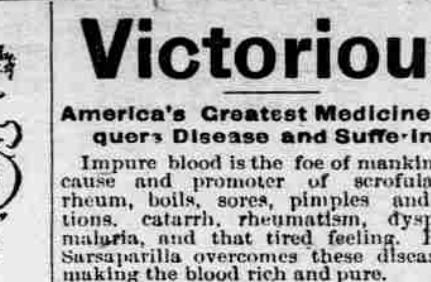
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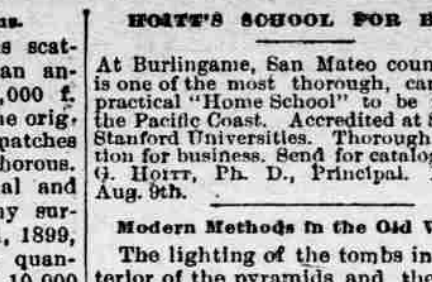
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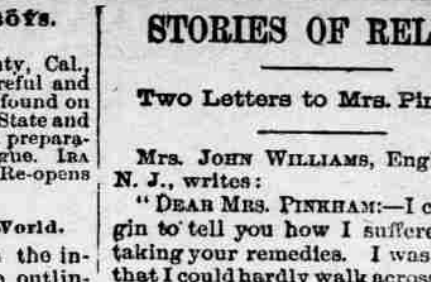
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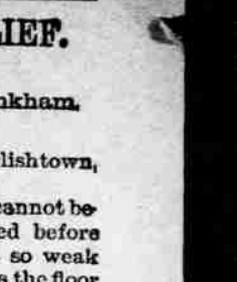
A new German antiseptic, called protogel, is a compound of silver and protin. A one per cent solution is reported to destroy the bacteria of anthrax and enteric fever.

A French journal states that among the recent uses which have been discovered for acetylene gas is a motor which has several advantages for use in automobile vehicles.

Clocks can be accurately leveled by a new shelf, which has a fixed wall and a pivoted, adjustable shelf, with levels in the top, to be set by thumb screws on the under side.

Heroes Meet.

It is not generally known that the anteroom of No. 10 Downing street, London—the official residence of the first Lord of the Treasury—which is to be spared in the clearances about to be made in Whitehall—was the scene of the meeting of Nelson and Wellington for the only time in their lives. Both of them were waiting in the anteroom to see the Minister—neither knowing the other—and they got into conversation. The great soldier, then only at the beginning of his fame, made so deep an impression on the great statesman, Nelson afterward inquired his name, and expressed his pleasure at the meeting.



Victorious

A Modish Idea.

In treating the tin summer fabrics, says St. Paul's, the up-to-date modistes have hit on the happy plan of closely tucking the upper part of the skirt from the waist to above the knee, whence the material hangs full and free round the feet. The style is well expressed in a green and white foulard, the top of the skirt vertically tucked, the hem finished with two narrow bands of contrasting material. The bodice, something of the shape of a mace jacket, was entirely tucked, and opened over a pretty vest of white silk, adorned with green ribbon embroidery. The sleeves of the green and white foulard were tucked full at the shoulder, and ended with bell cuffs lined with white silk.

TRY ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE.

A powder to be shaken into the shoes. At this season your feet feel swollen, sore, and hot, and get tired easily. If you have smarting feet or tight shoes, try Allen's Foot-Ease. It cures the feet and makes them comfortable. Cures swollen feet, blisters and callous spots. Relieves corns and bunions of all pain and makes you comfortable. Ten thousand testimonials of cures. Try it today. Sold by mail for 25c in stamps. Trial package FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, New York.

WAGONS IMPROVED.

The new improved Stoughton wagons stand the racket. Three more car loads are being shipped to the coast. Write for free catalogue. JOHN POOLE, sole agent, foot of Morrison street, Portland, Or.

Crude Oil in Road Work.

For many years it has been known that the use of oil on troubled waters greatly improves the condition of the road. The modern plan of road building, there would not be much doubt in providing free delivery through the more populous parts of the country. One reason why England delivers mail from house to house in the country as well as in the city is because the country roads are in such a condition that the work of delivery is greatly expedited. If there were English roads all through the Middle and Eastern States it would not be a great undertaking for this Government to establish free delivery in those sections.—Syracuse (N. Y.) Post.

Optim eating has become a habit with the Kafirs in South Africa. The Chinese are the chief purveyors of the drug.

Dr. T. H. White, No. 271 1/2 Morrison street, cor. Fourth, Portland, Or., is the only representative in the Pacific Northwest of the patented system of Crown and Bridge Work, invented by Dr. L. L. White, of San Francisco. By this method you do not have teeth extracted because they are damaged to the gums. In order to have new teeth inserted. Instead you can have crowns put on old roots, restoring the same to natural conditions and artificial teeth inserted where they have been removed. These operations are performed by the use of electricity and other methods, fills and extracts teeth without pain.

Centennial of Electricity.

A centennial of electricity will be celebrated at Como, Italy, the birthplace of Volta, from May to October, 1890. It is understood that everything pertaining to the advancement of electricity will be represented. At the same time an electrical congress of the world's prominent electrical engineers will be held.

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