

6000000000000 From my boyhood I marked out for inyself a political career. Some boys

were always statesmen. I didu't did aspire to be politically prominent. Before I was old enough to vote I was ranning the politics of the word in which I lived. Every one said, "Watch him; he will some day be a great political manager."

But if there were elements in me to ndvance me there seemed to be those to pull me back. I didn't seem to forge steadily onward. I would go up a peg and fall back two pegs. Yet I was energetic and pushing. Whenever a campaign was on I would go to the leaders of my party and give them my views as to how the campaign should be managed. They always listened to me attentively and seemed to be impressed. Sometimes they took my advice and sometimes they didn't. But, while I was always prominent in a general way, somehow I was not selected to fill any prominent position.

One day my friend Crook said to me: "There is one thing of supreme importance that is a blank in your mind. You don't realize that no great success can be made in this world except by hanging on to some one else's coatwould behold a line of men each hanggovernor. He is an original and a genius; never does anything like anybody else. I have influence with him. other day he was looking for a secreyou.'

"Shake, old man," I said. "You've hit the nail on the head.'

The next day my friend informed me that he had told the candidate for governor all about me, frankly including my fill success. Phunnyman had thought a moment, then said in his quick way: "Send him to me. I can 'make use of him.'

I was engaged by the candidate at a salary of \$200 a month as assistant secretary. He had a secretary who did er position. I became a sort of political confidential adviser. Whenever anything of importance would come up he would take me into his private room, tell me all about it and ask my opinion as to the best course to pursue. The right way always came to me at once, it seemed, by intuition, and I never had to deliberate. Phunnyman was a very secretive man and never said, "You are right" or "You are wrong." He made no comment whatever; but, since he continued to consult me. I concluded he found my advice valuable. Of course my position was a very pleasant one. A box of cigars was always at my disposal, and a decanter with glasses was kept in a closet for me. Phunnyman almost always took me out to lunch with him, for it was then that he could best confide all the various problems that came up before him. There's no sphere which requires such constant exercise of judgment as politics. Not a day but a number of questions came up, and many of them had to be settled at once. There's where my faculty for recognizing the pith of a question came in. Well, Phunnyman was elected by was all over I supposed he would take all the credit to himself, but he didn't. I was at his house the night of the election, where a telegraph apparatus cient returns had come in to insure hand, exclaiming joyfully: "It's all due to you, my boy. If it hadn't been for your advice I'd have been defeated in every county." Now, that's what I call honor where honor is due. The governor retained me in my position, for you must know that the position brings more problems than a campaign to get it. He doubled my salary, and there wasn't a man in the state that had a better position than I. Besides, I had lots of opportunities to make money through information 1 possessed, and 1 made it every time, though in this no judgment was required. I simply bought when I got the tip. When Phuanyman was sent to the United States senate he took me with him. He didn't have much use for my advice there, for he was obliged to do as the party leader directed, so I asked him to make me a secretary in reality as well as in name. This he declined to do, and, having secured a competency, I left him. Phunnyman died in the senate. After his death Crook, who had got me my position with him, showed me a letter of thanks the governor had sent kim the day after his election to that office. In it he said: "There is a right and a wrong decision on most questions. I judged from what you told me of his failures that your friend always decided wrong, so I took no step is the campaign without consulting him and doing the opposite from what he advised me to, do. It is lucky I held to the rule, for I often agreed with him."



