

Woolly Wisp

By John Herald Hamlin.

THE mere fact that he was a sheep gave him a woolly reputation. He had not always looked with Virginia's denizens, yet he lived there when that place reeked of wild, western life, and the sheep seemed not at all out of its element on the gray Comstock Lode. Woolly was a delicate, a lone lamb when first he entered Virginia's precincts, abandoned by a careless shepherd and pursued by coyotes into the very heart of that bustling mining camp. The miners were just changing shifts when the lambkin darted down C street, night shadows threw a gloom abroad, and the diminutive, fitting white object mystified the miners as they trooped homeward. One thick-tongued individual shouted out: "Look at it, boys! 'Tis a woolly wisp!"

"The wisp! The wisp! The wisp!" the merry men laughed loudly as they held a timid lamb. "Not will o' wisp, Slimps, but a decidedly woolly one, man!"

In such fashion did the sheep come by his name, and from that date Woolly Wisp played a privileged part in Virginia's circles. No one person claimed him. He was public property, and consequently Woolly's bringing up lacked a certain proportion of home influence so essential to the proper training of young things.

The first real wicked deed Woolly enacted endeared him to the whole body of school children. If the sheep were inclined to believe he maliciously planned his assault against Prof. Wigstie, principal of the Virginia schools. The principal adhered to the "rod" motto, and the pupils hated him much and feared him more. Prof. Wigstie was partial to the sheep, he cared not what style they were so long as the color gleamed yellow. His most recent acquisition in shoe leather made glad his heart—a glaring saffron shade, and soles that squeaked in a minor key, thus attracting not only the eye but the ear as well.

Woolly Wisp stood in a side street one bright morning. The hang of his head bespoke dejection, a hat that fell in can, sufficed, explaining his bad mood. Woolly frequently rattled tin-ware through the precipitous streets on Mt. Davidson's slopes. It always rattled his temper, which was pretty average bad at its best. While prancing in this ugly state of mind, a tall, spare man with vivid yellow and black shoes adorned his pedic extremities squeaked by in insolent complaisance. Woolly stamped his foot; the can clattered behind him—off he went, not like, but in reality, a battering ram. Prof. Wigstie sprawled quite across C street. Many of his irremediable pupils gathered about the offender of yellow shoes and lost dignity. Woolly Wisp tarried not, but continued on his career at a rattling pace.

After that star performance of the sheep, no youth in any of the Virginia "eliques" ever again attached things to his tail. He was, in their eyes, a creature to be revered as the hero who "downed" the younger Wigstie, and thus the woolly commander all due respect from the younger generation, and his future popularity was assured simply by that one daring act.

Woolly wasn't a traditional lamb, for he never ventured near the schoolhouse. The truce established between himself and the school children occurred at a recent date to every man, woman and child. He distrusted impulsive youth, and many times he betook himself to the outskirts of Virginia City that he might be entirely out of sight and hearing of rough youngsters.

Prof. Wigstie lived near the town's edge, in a house that looked three stories high, front view, and a mere shed, back view. The steepness of the sidewalk seemed directly to the faculty. A small front yard blazed with big sunflowers and brilliant dahlias. Woolly admired this rare garden-spot, and forced an entrance one luckless afternoon. The professor, returning from school, espied the trespasser; his wrath flared forth, and he bore down upon the sheep in a frenzy. Woolly realized that safety lay in flight, and he immediately took that course. Away went pedagogue and ram, careening down the mountain. At a moment when the race seemed lost to Prof. Wigstie, a dire calamity befell the pursued. An old mining shaft, partially obscured by sagebrush, yawned directly in the sheep's path. He disappeared down his black depths. No sign, no sound could Prof. Wigstie detect of the ingulfed torment.

"Good enough! That blasted beast is a hoodoo, and it's good riddance of this petted Woolly Wisp."

The removing of the \$700,000,000 worth of silver and gold from the heart of Mt. Davidson necessitated a wonderful amount of excavation. To say that the whole mountain is honey-combed is a plain statement of truth. A force of men picking in a tortuous drift found a muffled b-a-a. They stopped work; caught the sound again, and, with a few strokes of picks, broke through into an old shaft. Rather an unaccountable-looking sheep met their surprised gaze. One of his horns had been broken off, he appeared slightly dazed—but they recognized in him the mysteriously disappeared Woolly Wisp.

"Poor Woolly! You're a sorry sight, but we are right glad to see you again," said Slimps, who first discovered this will o' wisp.

It didn't take long to get the sheep out of his underground prison, nor did it consume much time for him to regain his normal sprightliness.

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EASILY MADE HAPPY.

There is one woman in New York who is rich on four dollars a year and is an object lesson of contentment in her daily life. She is Miss Emily B. Howell, ward No. 57, a house, Blackwell's Island. The simple needs of her existence are provided for. She has a roof over her head, food enough to eat, and garments sufficient for the society in which she moves.

Three years ago, when she had to go to the almshouse, she had but one haunting fear—that she would fill a pauper's grave. That fear has been removed. The money from which her moderate income springs will be ample to bury her.

Miss Howell was a teacher in the New York public schools for 17 years. Her life was exemplary, her manner was gentle and ladylike, nobody disliked her, but she was unfortunate. She had no influential friends, and when anybody had to drop from the line of school-teachers she was the one selected. At last the time came when no place was open for her to teach in, and she was compelled to become an inmate of the poorhouse.

The story of Miss Howell's life became known to a sympathetic woman, whose name is a secret to Miss Howell, and this nightmare of her existence was removed.

This unknown friend put into the hands of the officers of the International Sunshine society \$100, to be deposited to the credit of Miss Howell in a savings bank. The former teacher was the last to see the money, that amount each year, and the principal was to be used to defray the expense of her burial.

AMERICANS HONORED.

Five of our Countrymen Get Medals from Royal Geographical Society at London.

Dr. A. Donaldson Smith has returned from London, where he attended the annual meeting and dinner of the Royal Geographical society, of which he is a fellow. The meeting was held at the Hotel Metro-pole on May 20, and Dr. Smith shared with Duke d'Abruzzi, of the Italian royal family, the honor of receiving a gold medal conferred by the society for geographical research. Gold medals are usually awarded at the annual meetings, but never more than two a year.

Dr. Smith is the fifth American upon whom this honor has been conferred, says the Philadelphia Press. The others who received the decoration were Elisha Kent Kane, Lieut. Greely, Lieut. Peary and Commissioner Rockhill, who is now in China.

The two medals presented by the Royal society this year possess additional value from the fact that they are the last to be struck bearing Queen Victoria's head. In the future the medals will bear the head of the king, who has become the patron and honorary president of the society.

Frankfort Rothschilds extinct.

The Jewish Chronicle announces the extinction of the Frankfort branch of the Rothschilds, which has for over a century ranked as the parent house. The employees are to be pensioned off and the whole business closed. This is the sequence of the death of Baron Willy Rothschild a few months ago. His brother partner, who founded and endowed the delightful public library near the river in what was formerly his own house—in fact, the seats are his own dining-room chairs, and most comfortable for the aged—will survive. Baron Willy was intensely devout, and his reputation for devotion and charity touched so many Seattle parasites to Frankfort at one time that the municipality remonstrated. He had a large house in the city, but lived chiefly at a beautiful villa near by.

Cute Husband Off with Five Dollars.

Mrs. Harriett B. Cooper, who died April 8 at her home, 291 Fifty-seventh street, Brooklyn, practically cut her husband out of her will because he is able to care for himself, and left her estate, valued at \$5,000, to her mother, Mrs. Susan Peppel. Mrs. Cooper did not cut her husband off on account of any disagreement between them, says the New York Herald. On the contrary, she says he has been the best of men.

Mrs. Cooper's will is very short. It reads as follows:

"I leave and bequeath to mother this house at 291 Fifty-seventh street and everything else, except five dollars, which I leave to my darling husband, who has been the very best of men. I know he can make a living for himself."

Curfew Law Invalid.

County Judge Smith at St. Paul, Neb., has declared the Nebraska curfew law unconstitutional. A week ago four young men were arrested in each instance of prominent families, engaged in a charivari. All are grown, but of an age which brings them within the provisions of the curfew ordinance. They were arrested and detained for being out late. Habeas corpus proceedings were begun with the result that the law has been declared illegal, and the girls ordered released. An appeal will be taken to the higher courts.

Drop Mines.

Some of the lead mines in the Transvaal are worked at a depth of 12,000 feet.

Illiterate Italian Conscripts.

The percentage of illiterates among army conscripts in Italy is 35.

ANEMIA

is little red in the blood. The red in the blood is the oxygen-carrier. Better to breathe with half of one lung than not have enough red in the blood.

The blood is full of digested food; but it can't build muscle and nerve and bone without oxygen.

Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil puts red in the blood; the oxygen-carrier. It is like building a railroad into a famine-stricken country.

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D. S. Mitchell, Fulford Md.: "During a long illness I was troubled with bed sores, was advised to try Dr. Witt's Witch Hazel Salve and did so with wonderful results. I was perfectly cured. It is the best salve on the market." Sure cure for piles, sore, burns, Beware of counterfeits—Dr. Kremer.

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Rev. Geo. Gay, Greenwich, Kas., is past 85 years of age, yet he says "I am enjoying excellent health for a man of my age, the entirely to the rejuvenating influence of Dr. Miles' Nervine. It brings sleep and rest when nothing else will, and gives strength and vitality even to one of my old age."

"I am an old soldier," writes Mr. Geo. Watson of New Jersey, "and I have been a great sufferer from nervousness, vertigo and spinal trouble. Have spent considerable money for medicine and doctors, but with little benefit. I was so bad my mind showed signs of weakness. I began taking Dr. Miles' Nervine, and I know it saved my life."

Dr. Miles' Nervine

Saved me from the insane asylum," Mrs. A. M. Hulmer, of Jersey Springs, Mo., writes, "I was so nervous that I could scarcely control myself, could not sleep at night, would even forget the names of my own children at times. I commenced using Dr. Miles' Nervine and it helped me from the first, and now I am perfectly well."

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A really healthy woman has little pain or discomfort at the menstrual period. No woman needs to have any. Wine of Cardui will quickly relieve those smarting menstrual pains and the dragging head, back and side aches caused by falling of the womb and irregular menses.

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A Minister's Mistake.

A city minister was recently handed a notice to be read from his pulpit. Accompanying it was a clipping from a newspaper bearing upon the matter. The clergyman started to read the extract and found that it began: "Take Kemp's Balsam, the best Corn Cure." This was hardly what he had expected and, after a moment's hesitation, he turned it over, and found on the other side the matter intended for the reading.

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- R. L. Coe & Co. Dry Goods
- Mrs. J. A. Rehkopf, Variety Store
- New York Racket Store, Herbert Smith

With over 50 cents' worth of goods purchased for cash at the above named stores before January 1, 1902, a ticket will be given which entitles the holder to one guess on the whole number of tickets that will be deposited at the several stores during the month of December.

On the first day of January those tickets will be counted, and the person whose guess is the nearest to the number of tickets deposited will receive free a Ladies' or Gents' Bicycle. The second nearest guess will receive the person whose name is on the ticket to a high grade Phonograph and records, valued at \$30. The third nearest guesser receives an Eastman Kodak and the fourth nearest guesser receives a Columbia Zither special, a modern zither valued at \$10. These goods cost you absolutely nothing; you simply fill out the blanks on the tickets as you receive them and deposit the tickets in a box provided for that purpose.

The Gifts Are:
1st. High Grade Bicycle, Ladies' or Gents', Worth \$30.
2d. Phonograph and Records, 3 1/4 x 3 1/4 or 4 x 5.
3d. Eastman Kodak, Worth \$10.
4th. Columbia Zither, Special, Worth \$10.

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In accordance with the requirements of the law of the State of Oregon, relative to insurance companies, notice is hereby given that

The Lancashire Insurance Company of Manchester, England, desiring to cease doing business within the State of Oregon, intends to withdraw its deposit with the Treasurer of said State and will, if no claim shall be filed with the Insurance Commissioner within 90 months from the 22nd day of July, 1901, withdraw its deposit from the State Treasurer.

THE LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, By MANN & WILSON, Managers for the Pacific Coast. Dated at San Francisco, this 10th day of July, 1901.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTE.

To Archie Laevely.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, co-owners in the placer mining claim situated on Rogue river, in Josephine County and known as the "Honeycomb" mining claim, located by Charles H. Ewing, May 21, 1896, the notice of which is recorded in book 436, Vol. 9, of the Miscellaneous Mining Records of Josephine County, Oregon; that unless you contribute and pay within six months from the date of this notice, under the terms of the first publication of this notice, the sum of Seventy five Dollars, (\$75.00) the same being your proportion of the cost of annual labor done on said claim in order to protect the title thereto during the years 1898, 1899, 1900, your one-fourth interest therein will be forfeited to your co-owners.

W. E. DECKNER, E. G. FRANCIS, Sept. 20, 1901.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

The undersigned having been appointed executor of the estate of Joseph Keeler, deceased, by the County Court of Josephine County, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me at Grand Pass, Josephine County, Oregon, within the proper proof and vouchers, within six months from the date of this notice. Dated this 24th day of July, 1901.

H. T. KESSLER, Executor of the estate of Joseph Keeler, deceased.

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