

WHAT FATE DID

By CARL SARGENT CHACE

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The position occupied by a college boy seems to give no indication whatever of the position he will occupy in the world. This does not refer alone to his standing in his studies, but in his prominence or want of prominence in other respects. There are numerous instances of men who have graduated at the bottom of their class or have failed to graduate at all who have become distinguished, while those who graduated at the top have made a sorry showing in the battle of life. Fate is the chief factor in the premises.

Two students in antebellum days were chums at the University of Virginia. They were Huntington Courtney and Timothy Hutchinson. Their names typified their all round rank in college. Courtney was prominent in his studies and socially both in his class and in the limited but select society of those gathered about the university. Hutchinson, whose name was too long for ordinary use and commonly called Hutch, took such rank every way as his name would indicate. He was a poor scholar, a poor man for athletic sports and a poor man financially.

It often happens that excellent friends are the antipodes of each other. There were different theories mentioned why these men were chums, but the favorite was that Courtney found one to patronize, while Hutchinson found one to patronize him. But no one ever saw any patronizing between the two. Courtney continued to shine like a star of the first magnitude, while Hutchinson, who was inordinately lazy, maintained his position at the foot of the class.

There was one thing about the two men that was not apparent to their friends. Courtney learned easily, but his knowledge passed through him as through a sieve. His was mere study of books, not the practical lessons that would help him in the greater world. Hutchinson had little interest in books, but if anything in them caught his attention he put it away in his cranium and would know exactly how to use it when the occasion should arise. And here is the secret of the friendship. Courtney saw in Hutchinson his intellectual superior and intellectually leaned on him. Hutchinson found in Courtney one whose daily life interested and amused him, just as a man of parts may be entertained by a society novel.

Ten years passed. Courtney had somewhat disappointed his friends, and Hutchinson had made very little progress. Courtney had married a girl with a plantation; Hutchinson was a country lawyer. But the planters of those days were not given to law, and he earned but an ordinary living. One day he stumbled—no one knew how—on an important case and, by the mastery and original way in which he handled it, suddenly jumped to first rank in the Virginia bar.

He and Courtney were still intimate friends, and no one rejoiced so much as he over Hutchinson's sudden leap.

They were both still under middle age. Hutchinson was unmarried. The civil war came on, and both men entered the Confederate army. When they came out Courtney was financially ruined. He had not studied a profession, and in the south before the war business was not considered an occupation for a gentleman. Hutchinson was not ruined, for there was nothing but himself to ruin, and he was stronger when he came out of the war than when he went in. He had not had the advantage of a military education, but he was very resourceful and knew how to turn things to advantage. The consequence was that he did some very good work and it was appreciated. His war record, together with his prominence as a lawyer, sent him to Washington as a congressman. Then something happened to spoil his career.

There was a duel. The trouble was said to be politics. Indeed, to the outside world it was politics. Hutchinson accused a prominent politician of dishonesty in office. The accused man, who was innocent of the charge and whom everybody connected with him thoroughly believed to be innocent, was forced, according to the custom of the country at that time, to challenge Hutchinson. They met, and Hutchinson killed his antagonist.

Hutchinson fell at once to the position he had occupied in college, or, rather, to a far worse one, for he was cut by most of his neighbors and as soon as his term in congress expired was not re-nominated.

One man stood by him. That was his old friend Courtney. But Courtney could never understand his friend's antagonism to the man he had killed or why he should have ruined himself on account of it. He often asked Hutchinson to explain why he had committed political suicide, but never obtained any satisfaction.

Hutchinson joined that numerous colony of southerners in New York. There the obloquy attached to him was lost in the rush of a great city, and he seemed to be spurred to extraordinary action. He became a successful lawyer, and one of his favorite amusements was writing checks and sending them to his friend Courtney in the shape of so called loans. Hutchinson and two others are the only persons who ever knew the real cause of the duel. One of these two is dead, and the other is Mrs. Courtney.

Thirty Years Together.

Thirty years of association—think of it. How the merit of a good thing stands out in the time—or the worthlessness of a bad one. So there is no guesswork in this evidence. Thos. Ariss, Concord, Mich., who writes: "I have used Dr. King's New Discovery for 30 years, and it is the best cough and cold cure I ever used." Once it finds entrance in a home you can't pry it out. Many families have used it forty years. Its the most infallible throat and lung medicine on earth. Unequaled for 1grippe, asthma, hay-fever, croup, quinsy or sore lungs. Price 50c, \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by all druggists.

Little Miss Muffet.

Little Miss Muffet
Sat on a tuffet
Eating a piece of pie,
And when a big spider
Sat down beside her
She told him to swat the fly.
—Springfield Union.

Proof Positive.

"Theorists are fools."
"Is that your theory?"
"Yes."
"Then we will let it go at that."
—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Loss of Time Means Loss of Pay

Kidney trouble and the ills it breeds means lost time and lost pay to many a working man. M. Balent, 1214 Little Penna St., Streator, Ill., was so bad from kidney and bladder trouble that he could not work, but he says: "I took Foley Kidney Pills or only a short time and got entirely well and was soon able to go back to work, and am feeling well and healthier than before." Foley Kidney Pills are tonic in action, quick in results—a good friend to the working man or woman who suffers from kidney ills. —Bandon Drug Co.

He Was a Stayer.

She desperately—Don't you believe they will worry over your absence if you fail to return home until such a late hour? He carelessly—There's nobody to worry except the landlady, and I make a point to keep her worrying by always owing her a month's board. —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Accused of Stealing.

E. E. Chamberlain, of Clinton, Me., boldly accused Bucklin's Arnica Salve of stealing—the sting from burns or scalds—the pain from sores of all kinds—the distress from boils or piles. "It robs cuts, corns, bruises, sprains and injuries of all their terror," he says, "as a healing remedy its equal don't exist." Only 25c at all druggists.

A Curious Superstition.

The ancients believed that the marrow of the human backbone often transformed itself into a serpent. Pliny ("Natural History," volume 10, page 66) says that the marrow of a man's backbone will breed to a snake. The Chinese (Ward's "Eastern Travels") burned the backbone to "destroy serpents that might hatch therefrom."

A King Who Left Home

set the world to talking, but Paul Mathulka, of Buffalo, N. Y., says he always keeps at home the king of all laxatives—Dr. King's New Life Pills—and that they're a blessing to all his family. Cure constipation, headache, indigestion, dyspepsia. Only 25c at all druggists.

A Complex Accomplishment.

"I understand you speak French like a native."
"No," replied the student. "I've got the grammar and the accent down pretty fine, but it's hard to learn the gestures."—Exchange.

Sallow complexion comes from bilious impurities in the blood and the fault lies with the liver and bowels—they are torpid. The medicine that gives results in such cases is Herbine. It is a fine liver stimulant and bowel regulator. Price 50c. Sold by C. V. Lowe.

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