

HEROES OF AMERICAN HISTORY

THE FIREBRAND OF
UNION ARMS

WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN

A descendant of an old American family, William Tecumseh Sherman was brought up by a friend of his father, when the latter, a Supreme Court justice in Ohio, died. At 16 Sherman entered West Point Military Academy and spent the next seventeen years of his life in the army. At 33 he resigned from the service to become a successful banker and lawyer. Although he was superintendent of the Louisiana Military Academy when the Civil War broke out, Sherman went North and re-entered the Union Army. A brilliant fighter, his pro-



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motion to the chief command of the armies in the West was rapid. Sherman's most celebrated campaign was the invasion of Georgia and the famous "March to the Sea," a decisive move that helped bring about the close of the war. Justly regarded as one of the truly great soldiers of the Civil War, he received the rank of full general, a post that few men have held in the history of the country.

Bob Davis Reveals

Hachiko's Long Vigil at the Place
of the Rendezvous

IN THE harbor at Yokohama, midst the hustle and bustle of debarkation, I first caught the phrase, "Meet me at the monument."

Ashore, at the customs, where travelers babble principally in English, a tourist remarked to a friend, "I will watch for you at the statue." Which statue? Here again, ambiguity.

An hour later in Tokyo, I received a third hint when an American silk merchant, revisiting Japan, agreed to meet an acquaintance the next day at "Hachiko's pedestal."

The following afternoon, having arranged an appointment to meet up with a friend at Shibuya station, a suburb of Tokyo, I was told to show myself at the "dog monument." By this time, fed up with the mystery, I agreed to come, provided he would inform me concerning the widespread popularity of that particular point for the contacting of friends and countrymen.

Memorial to Faithful Dog.

Detraining, I passed through the station toward a short flight of steps that led to the street, where I came rather suddenly upon the statue of a curly-haired dog seated on his haunches and mounted on a pedestal of stone, the whole construction approximately seven feet in height, and highly ornamental in the Japanese style. Standing around were a number of people apparently waiting for others to turn up. Among them was the friend who had dated me up at the "dog monument."

He approached with all the manners of a first-class tourist guide. "As you don't read Japanese," he said, "it is my pleasure to translate the legend on the pedestal. In some particulars this is the most interesting piece of sculpture in the kingdom, symbolizing as it does the virtues of Patience and Fidelity, without resorting to mythology. This dog, who in life answered to the name of Hachiko, was the friend and companion of Professor Uyenno, department of agriculture, Imperial university, Tokyo. Both have since died, immortalized

in a sense because of the story that survives them."

With Hachiko for escort, it was the professor's daily habit to leave his home in the morning and to walk the few blocks between his residence and the Shibuya station where, with a short speech and a pat on the head, he dismissed his dog, boarded the train and went about his professional duties at the university. Hachiko, knowing what was expected of him, ambled back to his kennel alone, there to await the 5:00 p. m. train, when he would again turn up at the station and greet his master at the foot of the short staircase down which the professor always came with the regularity of clockwork.

Death Takes the Professor.

One afternoon, about eight years ago, in conformity with his weekday custom, Hachiko trotted up to the listening post and squatted upon his haunches. The 5:00 p. m. train rolled in and discharged its passengers.

But, for some unknown reason, the beloved Uyenno was not that afternoon among them.

The professor had died that afternoon at his post in the university. No messenger brought the ill news to his waiting friend, who for eight long, anxious, but perhaps—who knows—hopeful years, Hachiko of the hungry heart, took up his place to be on hand against the day when the 5:00 p. m. train brought the missing comrade home from somewhere out there in the unknown.

Vigil of Hopeless Memory.

Rain or shine, the dumb beast, spurning all human sympathy, kept this vigil, never wavering in the belief that the absentee would reappear. The efforts of a kindly man, believing that he could win the dog away from the hopeless memory by giving him a new home, came to naught, for, each day at the appointed hour, Hachiko turned up at the Shibuya station, taking his place at the foot of the empty stairs, there to watch until nightfall, when he went home, thinking only of the familiar figure that had vanished from view. All of Tokyo knew the truth, that never penetrated to the consciousness of the one who suffered most.

A little more than a year ago this shaggy akita dog, faithful to the last, broken-spirited, sad-eyed and mystified, passed out of this life. The story of Hachiko's steadfast affection, brought sharply to the public mind by his death, swept Japan like a warm zephyr, arousing a sentiment that expressed itself in the erection, through public subscription comprising all classes, including the school children, of a statue unveiled with public ceremonies appropriate to the occasion.

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DAYLIGHT SAVING PLAN OUTLINED BY OLD BEN FRANKLIN

Blame Benjamin Franklin if your alarm-clock rasps its gloomy reveille before dawn this summer. For he it was who originated the daylight saving time idea, which robs the citizens of many states of their last hour of beauty sleep.

On March 20, 1784, Franklin awakened at 6 a. m. in Paris, blinked at the bright sun, decided it was silly for people to sleep "until noon," burn candles at night.

So he wrote a letter to a Paris newspaper, humorously chiding Pa-

risians for their sloth, and outlining a daylight saving plan.

"Every morning," he wrote, "as soon as the sun rises, let all the bells in every church be set ringing.

"If that is not sufficient, let cannon be fired in every street to wake the sluggards effectually."—Literary Digest.

Deep Unwavering Faith

There is no more enviable condition than that of him who has made the pressure of adverse things the means of a deep faith. There is no good so great as that which the soul has itself wrought and secured, through its overcoming faith.—J. F. W. Ware.

Minds of Great Men Are

Apparently in Duplication. Writing speeches for members of the house and senate has long been a profitable business for many Washington newspaper men, says a recent essay in "Covering Washington." On one occasion one correspondent inadvertently disposed of the funeral oration to two members of the house. By a curious coincidence these members delivered this oration on the same day in memory of the same departed brother. By a more singular circumstance, the oration listened to the speech of the deceased and the duplication was not detected until the Congressional Record was printed.

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