

The Man and Moment.

It does not actually beat the record for bravery and self abnegation in the rescue of human beings from the sea, the achievement of Captain Mark Casto and his men comes so close to it as to make the record itself feel uncomfortable. In heroism it has never been surpassed. "My ship was the cry of the daring sailor as he looked at the wave battling the ship and knew that 63 lives were periled aboard her, 'I can't see the shore so near shore!' And within four his little ten ton fishing smack, Alberta had snatched the long imprisoned passengers and crew from the jaws of death and landed safely on dry land. 'So near shore!' The grounded ship was only a few miles from the New Jersey coast in plain sight of people in Atlantic City. All the devices of the experienced wrecking companies and the life saving service of the United States government were powerless to rescue the ship's company, yet sev-

en doughty fishermen, with only the most ordinary sort of a boat, accomplished the feat. The government has brave, skillful, efficient men aplenty in its coast patrol—but there are still better men outside the service, it seems. The incident ought to move congress to offer an adequate money prize to anybody who will invent a mechanical device for rescuing sea-goers under such circumstances. The heroism to go with it, we already have. It is bundled up roughly in other men than Mark Casto, Axel Holmquist, Nelson Kregson, Lewis Johnson, Jediah Schute, Frederick Bush and Frank Maria. It cannot be created by act of congress, for it is God given only. In these men it deserves prompt and substantial recognition from a people that has a heart and admires courage.—New York Express.

Very Sad, But—

Sir Weymess Reid wrote as follows of one of his early experiences as a

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reporter: "On the first occasion of witnessing an execution, as I stood trembling at the foot of the scaffold on which the victim was about to appear, I noticed an old reporter, for whom I entertained a great deal of personal respect, pacing up and down beside me, reading the New Testament.

"In the passion of horror and pity that filled my young heart I concluded that my friend was seeking spiritual comfort in view of the event in which we were about to take part as spectators and recorders. I said something to him about the horror of the act we were shortly to witness.

"He looked up with a placid smile from his reading, and said gently—for he was essentially a gentleman: 'Yes, very sad, very sad; but let us be thankful it isn't raining.' And then he calmly returned to his daily reading of the Word."

Why He Was Happy.

He was one of the happiest kids in town. He stood in front of his home and grinned enthusiastically as he saw the others unwillingly wending their way toward school.

"Come on, Harold," shouted several of the boys.

"Not on your life," answered the rejoicing Harold. "No school for me today. I'm going to stay home."

"What's the matter? Sick?"

"No."

"Your ma sick?"

"No."

"Well, why?"

"Oh, 'cause, You see, my grandma has come to spend the day with mamma, and grandma she's awful hard o' hearin' Mamma's got a cold in her chest and in her neck, and she can't talk loud enough for grandma to hear what she says, so I've got to stay at home to tell grandma what mamma says."—Indianapolis News.

Why He Left.

"What has become of the big man who used to beat the bass drum?" asked the private of the drum major.

"He left us about three months ago."

"Good drummer, too, wasn't he?"

"Yes, very good. But he got so fat that when he marched he couldn't hit the drum in the middle."—London Tit-Bits.

A LESSON IN MANNERS

The other incident, that of the home voyage, concerned a very different sort of person, a "hero of the ring," a lightweight champion pugilist, well known in the "sporting world." The boat was crowded with that army of returning tourists who all seek to reach America together in early September. At the table assigned to the Spectator and his friend all but one were men, the exception being the meek looking wife of a yet meeker looking husband. The pugilist sat next the wife, and his ordinary talk, unrestrained by the proximity, was the most dreadful in constant profanity and vulgarity the Spectator has

ever heard. After two meals, lunch and dinner, the Spectator's friend decided that if the meek husband did not protest he must. So, with some natural trepidation as to possibilities, he sought an interview with the pugilist and informed him that he must either reform his conversation or dine in his cabin by himself, as the captain would on appeal, certainly compel him to do. The naive surprise of the pugilist that he had been offensive was as unexpected as was his willingness to do anything suggested, even to taking his meals by himself. On consideration, however, he acknowledged that that might prove to be—let his word be rendered—"lonesome." But what shall I cut out?" he asked the Spectator's friend in all sincerity. The latter named a conspicuous phrase or two to begin with. "How's a kid to know there's any harm in them?" he next asked. "What's the others?" So the

Spectator's friend actually made out a list—an index expurgatorius—of twenty phrases that must be "cut out," the pugilist receiving it with thankfulness. It was good to see him conning the list diligently with moving lips until lunch hour, as he sat on deck by himself, foregoing his usual game of poker in the smoking room. And he mastered that list—an inclusive list. Not once again, wonderful as it may seem, did he use one shockingly offensive phrase until the boat reached her New York dock. His parting words to the Spectator's friend were: "I thank you for teaching me how to behave among decent folks."—Spectator in The Outlook.

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