

A Football Hero

By GEORGE BROOKS.

WELL," said Allendale, after Trafford had completed his lugubrious yarn, "if she dotes on golf champions and football heroes, and things like that, it seems to me the solution of the puzzle is for you to go in for athletics and be a knight of the gridiron or a champion pole vaulter."

"What, me," groaned Trafford. "I tell you, Ally, I would go through fire and water for that girl, but there is some things that are impossible. I can never be a football hero. I tried just once when I was in school. They put me on the scrub eleven for the varsity to practice on and in the first five minutes two big brutes picked me up, threw me down on my head and walked all over me, and after I came around, some time next day, I found I had two ribs and my collar bone broken."

"Hum," said Allendale. "That's a sad case, Traffy. But doesn't your lady love have any appreciation for your legal abilities as exhibited in the case of Meyer vs. Millbank, which you have just fought out so beautifully?"

"She doesn't," said Trafford, sadly. "Every time I go over to see her the front room is full of long-haired youths as wide as they are long and with their faces all clawed up like they had been fighting bears, and I am presented to various half backs, and center rushes, and full guards until you can't rest. After I am duly presented then I am forgotten and allowed to sit back in the library and hear her pater tell how he held back Longstreet's whole rebel column for all day or a week or two at Antietam, or Gettysburg, or Shiloh, I forget where. And through the open door I can hear Lucy talking with those pigskin chasers about punts and downs and saying, 'O, what a hero you are, Mr. Jones, to struggle across the line with a rib broken and three men clinging to your back.' O, it's just blighting my life. She used to like me immensely before this athletic fad of hers began, and if I could only do something to keep her interested in me until she gets over the attack I would be all right. As it is—"

"As it is," said Allendale, "you are drifting apart."

"That's it," said Trafford, "we are." The two walked on in silence. Then Allendale gave a whistle. He drew Trafford into a dark alley and there were mysterious whisperings for five minutes, after which Trafford entered a drug store.

It was almost nine o'clock that evening when Trafford called on Miss Jukes. He limped painfully into the room, leaning on a cane, and was preceded by a strong odor like that of the operating room of a hospital.

"Why, Mr. Trafford," said Miss Jukes in astonishment, "is it you? And you've made me lose a box of caramels. I bet Capt. Kling—you know Capt. Kling, he's half back of the State university—that it was Willie Dowling, the new center rush of the Foster academy eleven, that was coming because I heard the cane and smelled the arnica. But you haven't been in an accident, have you?" she asked, anxiously, as she looked at Trafford's cane and took another sniff of the arnica.

"No," said Trafford, as he sat down with great difficulty on the pile of cushions Miss Jukes hastily arranged for him on the sofa. "You know I am the quarter back for the All Alumni Tigers, and we had our first game this afternoon."

"What?" said Miss Jukes, in astonishment. "Why, I thought you doted football. But you are actually on a team. Why, isn't that lovely?"

Capt. Kling, the famous half back, glared defiantly at Trafford and took up a book and looked idly through the pages. Miss Jukes had eyes and ears only for Trafford.

"O, but I did do myself proud. I've seen enough games of football to be able to put up a pretty good yarn, and you ought to have heard me describe that game. I told how in the second half, with only ten more minutes to play and the score tied, the ball was handed to me for a run. I went down that field with the whole pack at my heels. I dodged two or three men, but finally the center rush caught me just as I was six feet from the goal line. That center rush weighed 230 pounds. I was going to make him 260, but I compromised on 230. I said he piled right on top of me, but that I just got up on all fours and trotted across that line, carrying the center rush on my back for all the world like a Newfoundland carrying a freezing wanderer in the Alps into a monastery. Jennie laughed and clapped her hands and said it must have been fine, but that chuckle faced Kling said, 'Must have been a pretty fast runner, that center weight to go ahead of all his team and overhaul you right near the goal. Usually the center is the slowest man in the eleven.' I told him that this center weight was unusually quick on his feet, and Kling snorted and said he must be. But that let him out, and Jennie never looked at him the rest of the evening, but kept me talking about the game until I fairly got ashamed of myself. I've got to go down in Ohio next week, and while there I'm going to

have the All Athletes come over and play."

"She'll be looking in the papers," said Allendale. "Then where'll you be?"

"Got that all fixed. Told her the All Athletes had a row with the papers a year or two ago and wouldn't send them the scores any more; and, in fact, had forbidden the papers to print a word about them."

"Well, keep it up, Traffy," said Allendale, gravely. "but remember, my son, you are on dangerous ground, and if I were you I wouldn't make more than four or five touchdowns in each game."

The next time Trafford went around to call on Miss Jukes he was what Allendale called a work of art. He had five beautiful scratches, made with a camel's hair brush and red paint, on one cheek; he had a black strip of court plaster across the bridge of his nose, and carried one arm in a sling.

There were four or five husky looking young men with their faces picturesquely marred sitting in the Jukes front parlor and they all looked disheartened when Trafford appeared.

Miss Jukes drew out the softest and easiest chair for Trafford, and when he sat down with all the grace and agility of a broken backed camel she drew up a little stool and sat down in front of him, and begged for the story of the Ohio game. The opportunity was a splendid one and Trafford, who was a fluent talker if he was not a great football hero, caught the inspiration and related the story of a game that had it really occurred must have gone down in football history as the greatest gridiron struggle ever recorded.

As Trafford looked at her and thought of the deceit he was practicing suddenly bore in upon him and his face twitched and he gave a groan before he was aware of it.

"O," said Miss Jukes in dismay, and the husky youths looked at him in astonishment.

"I—I," said Trafford, feebly. "I'm afraid I'm an awful baby. But I dropped my arm suddenly, and I wrenched my collar bone the other day, and it hurt."

Miss Jukes' eyes almost dimmed with tears. "You football men are so plucky," she said. She got some more sofa pillows and fixed Trafford's arm so that he would not let it drop and cause his poor collar bone to pain him so terribly again. Trafford sat the other football heroes out that evening, and after they were all gone he staid for quite an hour and had Miss Jukes all to herself for the first time in a long month. But a bombshell exploded when he was saying good night.

"I am going to give you a little surprise," said Miss Jukes. "You may have felt slighted because I have gone to see the other boys play, but have never been out to one of your games. Well, papa, mamma, and I are going out next Saturday afternoon. You say that your eleven is going to play away out somewhere on the West side, and I want you to tell us how to get there. And, do you know, some of the other football men are just crazy to go. I am sorry, Mr. Trafford," she said, with a little sigh, "but they seem awfully jealous of you and would say all manner of horrid things if I would let them, but I won't. But they are crazy to see you play, and some of them have begged off from their own games just to go with us, and I want you to show them what a real football hero is. And you will, won't you?"

What was he to do? At first he decided to organize a team and hire some other football aggregation to play them, but the thought of the sorry figure he would cut on the gridiron straitened him. Then he recalled the gibes and taunts of Miss Jukes' real football friends when they found out the truth, and how she would hate him for being such a faker. He was so deep in his thoughts that he did not hear the whirring of an automobile that was tearing down upon him at about three times the rate of speed permitted by the city council. The next he knew he was lying in the white ward of a hospital. At first he gave himself up to the agony of despair. Then he realized that perhaps there was a way out.

It was two days later that Allendale had a note from Trafford telling of the accident and the name of the hospital where Trafford was lying. He hurried over at once.

"Poor old Traffy," he said, bending over the cot. "I got you into all that mess. I suppose now it's got to come out, and of course Miss Jukes will never look at you again. I'm awful sorry, old man, but maybe if we make a clean breast of it and—"

"New, don't spoil things," said Trafford under his bandages. "See these flowers, Ally? She sent 'em. She was here a moment ago. That automobile never stopped, and I was brought here by a cabman, and no one knows anything about the affair except the interne that's taking care of me, and he's a friend of mine. You see, that mobile let me out of playing that game on Saturday. I had to tell Miss Jukes that I got hurt in a practice game yesterday morning."

"Say, Traffy," said the admiring Allendale, "you're a wonder! and you've got the nerve of 14 football heroes."

"And, Ally," said Trafford, feebly, "I've killed that football fad for Miss Jukes. She's made me promise never to play football again. She wouldn't promise to marry me until I did. It was an awful sacrifice, but I made it. —Chicago Tribune.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Notable Events of the Week Briefly and tersely told.

A lone train robber held up a Louisville and Nashville express near South Louisville.

The court at Colorado Springs, Colo., has admitted the will of W. S. Stratton to probate.

Eight hundred thousand dollars a year has been added to the pay of the 9,000 members of the Chicago Truck Teamsters' union.

The government of Brazil has accepted the invitation to take part in the St. Louis fair and has made an appropriation of \$200,000.

Tuesday, Dec. 20. The new battleship Maine has been put in commission at the League Island navy yard.

A Norfolk and Western train was wrecked near Greenville, Va. The engineer was killed.

The Flat Top (W. Va.) operators will advance the miners' wages from 40 to 20 per cent Jan. 1.

A Christmas present made in a Chicago boarding house contained poison. One has since died, and others are ill.

The Potsdam branch of the National Bank of Germany has been robbed of \$23,750 in securities. Its submanager is missing.

Monday, Dec. 29. Dow academy at Franconia, N. H., was destroyed by fire.

A severe earthquake shock was experienced at Syracuse, N. Y.

Severe weather, with destructive gales, was reported in England and on the continent.

Nine men have been buried by a snowslide at the Mollie Gibson mine in British Columbia.

A hundred Russian miners were entombed by fire in a coal mine. Only twenty were rescued.

Archbishop Chappelle, apostolic delegate in Cuba and Porto Rico, arrived at San Juan and was warmly welcomed.

Saturday, Dec. 27. A minister at Armstrong, Mo., married five couples at once.

Colonial Secretary Chamberlain was warmly welcomed at Durban, Natal.

VENEZUELA TO CONCEDE ALL.

Only Asks That the Blockade Be Lifted at Once

CARACAS, Venezuela, Dec. 29.—United States Minister Bowen and Lopez Baralt, Venezuelan minister of foreign affairs, have held a long conference. Mr. Bowen, obeying instructions from Washington, conveyed to Senor Baralt President Roosevelt's refusal to act as arbitrator in the Venezuelan difficulty. He recommended that the matter be taken to the international peace court at The Hague, which had been expressly organized to consider questions in which the honor of a country or the disposition of territory was not concerned.

He suggested the organization of a commission to sit in Washington, the allied powers to be represented on this commission by their ambassadors to the United States and Venezuela by a delegate.

The commission is to sign a document setting forth the matters to be decided at The Hague court. Mr. Bowen said also that Germany would not press for an immediate payment and that she had agreed to accept a guarantee based on a percentage of the customs receipts.

It is understood that Venezuela will make any concession, even abandoning her demand that her navy be returned. Through the Venezuelan delegate to the commission the Venezuelan government will ask that the blockade be lifted at once.

THE DURBAR IN DELHI.

Coronation Festivities Marked by Unusual Splendor.

DELHI, India, Dec. 30.—Lord Curzon, the viceroy of India, accompanied by Lady Curzon, the vicereine, formerly Miss Mary Leiter of Chicago, have arrived at Delhi to take part in the durbar. They were accorded royal honors and marched in procession through the town to the viceroy's encampment, seven miles beyond the Delhi wall.

It was a splendid pageant, unparalleled in magnificence. At the head of the elephant procession rode Lord and Lady Curzon on the state "grand tusker," twelve feet high, the largest elephant in India.

Their howdah was decked with gold and hidden beneath a gold worked saddlecloth. Surrounding them were footmen in scarlet and gold liveries and bearing massive silver staves.

Today the viceroy opened the great Indian arts exhibition, which happily had been arranged in combination with the durbar.

The crowning event will be the coronation in the great amphitheater on New Year's day.

Bigger Salary For Mitchell.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 27.—President Mitchell is likely to receive an increase in his salary as head of the United Mine Workers. His present salary is \$1,800 a year, and it is proposed by the miners to raise it to \$3,000 a year. Secretary Wilson, it is thought, will also be remembered in a similar manner at the national convention of the miners, beginning here Jan. 19. This action is planned in recognition of the fact that through the activity of these two officials the men are almost sure of a general advance in their own wages during the coming year.

Presented With Loving Cup.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Dec. 31.—John F. Deems, who has resigned as general superintendent of the local plant of the American Locomotive works to become superintendent of motive power on all the Vanderbilt railroad lines, was in the presence of 1,500 employees last night presented with a silver loving cup, costing \$1,100. Practically all the 4,000 employees of the company contributed toward its purchase.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Closing Stock Quotations.

Money on call strong at 12 1/4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 8 per cent. Sterling exchange steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at \$1.8675/4.8675 for demand and at \$1.82125/4.8375 for 90 day bills. Poated rates, \$4.84 and \$4.87 1/2. Commercial bills, \$4.52 1/2/4.82 1/2. Bar silver, 82 1/2. Mexican dollars, 38c. Government bonds steady. Railroad bonds irregular.

Closing prices: Atchafalpa, 8 1/2. N. Y. Central, 129 1/2. C. C. & St. L., 96 1/2. Ontario & West, 31 1/2. Ches. & Ohio, 48 1/2. People's Gas, 112 1/2. Del. & Hudson, 17 1/2. Reading, 60 1/2. Erie, 35 1/2. Rock Island, 49 1/2. Gen. Electric, 179. St. Paul, 178 1/2. Lackawanna, 200. Sugar Refinery, 128 1/2. Lead, 27 1/2. Texas Pacific, 39 1/2. Louis. & Nash, 127. Union Pacific, 109 1/2. Manhattan, Con. 146. Wash. pref., 40 1/2. Missouri Pac., 185 1/2. West. Union, 85 1/2.

New York Markets.

FLOUR—Steady and unchanged; Minnesota patents, \$4.42 1/2; winter straight, \$3.40 1/2; winter extras, \$2.95 1/2; winter, \$2.69 1/2. WHEAT—Quiet and easy owing to further liquidation; May, 89 1/2; July, 90 1/2. RYE—Quiet; state, 50 1/2; c. i. f. New York, No. 2 western, 58c. f. o. b. float. CORN—Also a shade off, following wheat; January, 34 1/2; March, 31 1/2. OATS—Neglected and barely steady; track, white, state, 29 1/2; track, white, western, 29 1/2. PORK—Steady; mess, \$18 1/2; family, \$18. LARD—Easy; prime western steam, 10 1/2. BUTTER—Irregular; state dairy, 20 1/2; extra creamery, 28 1/2. CHEESE—Firm; state, full cream, small, colored, fancy, full made, 14c.; late made, 13 1/2c.; small, white, full made, 14c.; late made, 13 1/2c.; large, colored, full made, 14c.; late made, 13 1/2c.; large, white, full made, 14c.; late made, 13 1/2c. EGGS—Firm; state, 23c.; Pennsylvania, average best, 25c.; western, fancy graded, 26c. SUGAR—Raw nominal; fair refining, 2 1/2; centrifugal, 28 cent, 37c.; refined quiet; crushed, 5 1/2c.; powdered, 4 1/2c. MOLASSES—Quiet; New Orleans, 32 1/2. RICE—Firm; domestic, 4 1/2; Japan, nominal. HAY—Steady; shipping, 55 1/2; good to choice, 65c. 4 1/2. LIVE STOCK MARKET. CATTLE—Market steady; choice, \$5.75; 1.80; prime, \$5.00; good, \$4.25; veal calves, \$2.50. HOGS—Market lower; prime hogs, \$5.00; 1.50; mediums, \$4.50; heavy Yorkers, \$4.00; light Yorkers and pigs, \$4.00; roughs, \$3.50. SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market steady; 1.50; choice lambs, \$5.00; 1.50.

THE FIRST STEP

Of the child is an event in the mother's life. How proud she feels when she attempts to walk is begun so early as to evidence childish courage and sturdy strength. Such pride should be enjoyed by every mother. But it often happens that the child is timid, weak and deficient in vitality, and clings to the mother's arms with no desire to walk or play.

Mothers should learn that to have strong children they must themselves be strong, for the child's strength is the gift of the mother.

The use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription by expectant mothers gives them health and strength to give their children. It nourishes the nerves, strengthens the body and gives great muscular strength and elasticity, so that the baby's advent is practically painless.

"I have been using Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and can say it is just what you advertise it to be, and can cheerfully recommend it," writes Mrs. Victor J. Hadin, of Leonardville, Riley Co., Kansas. "It began taking it just two months before baby came and was greatly benefited by its use. The doctor who attended me said I did about as well as any one he had seen (as I was sick only about three hours), and also that your 'Favorite Prescription' was the one 'patient medicine' which he did have faith in."

"We now have a darling baby boy, strong and healthy, who weighed nine pounds when born (July 28th). During this month he has gained three and one-half pounds."

"Favorite Prescription" makes weak women strong, sick women well. Accept no substitute for the medicine which works wonders for weak women.

The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser, a book containing 1008 pages, is given away. Send 21 one-cent stamps for expense of mailing only, for the book in paper covers, or 31 stamps for the volume bound in cloth. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Do Your Best: Then be Content.

It is a poor occupation to be continually seeking slights. They are thin-skinned weak-minded things who need careful handling and delicate tasks. They haven't enough gumption to finish a job without an admiring audience shouting words of encouragement; or if by chance they do carry a task to completion and the plaudits of the multitude do not follow they must needs feel hurt. The only person a man needs to please is himself. And this does not mean that he must be selfish. No man is ever satisfied with his work—if he is a man and not simply ego—but he can be satisfied that he has done his best. No man can do better; and what does it matter what people think.

New Dodge In Street Begging

Idea count for success, even in street begging. One of the latest dodges of the New York solicitor of alms is heroic. It is worked in this way, says the New York Times: A shabbily attired man hurries along the street, apparently unconscious of his surroundings. He expectorates, as though by chance, on to the well polished shoe of a passerby. Before the man has time to protest the mendicant drops on his knees and, with the remnants of a well worn handkerchief, rubs away at the soiled shoe, meanwhile pouring forth profuse apologies. Nine times out of ten he gets a dime for his politeness.

Cattle Dying of Thirst and Starvation.

Thousands of cattle are reported to be starving on the range in Northwestern Colorado. The humane society appealed to the owners to rescue their stock and they have replied that they are powerless to do so. The cattle are snowed in on the high range in Routt and Rio Blanco counties without pasture and without water. It is impossible to get feed to them and equally impossible to drive them into suitable winter quarters.

Air castles are sometimes built of gold bricks.

Wheat and Rye.

The acreage large and the condition is very fine.

The agricultural department at Washington has issued the following bulletin: Acreage of wheat 105.1 per cent. Acreage of rye 99.3 per cent. Condition of winter wheat '99.7 as compared with 86.7 last year. Condition of rye 98.1 as compared with 89.9 last year. The ten year average for wheat is 91.4 and for rye 95.7.

A good appetite is rather a handicap to a man who is penniless.

THE ONE PACKAGE DYE in red printed wrappers, colors cotton, wool or silk in same bath. Sample roc. any color. New Peerless, Elmira, N. Y. 1-1-qt

THE OARSMAN NEVER HAD A HARD ROW TO HOE. Permanent Situation. Cash paid weekly for services either on salary and expenses paid, or commission, to take orders for our Garden Seeds; also Fruits and Flower Seeds. We carry a full line for the Farm and Market Gardeners, so that a live man cannot help but succeed, as he has the facilities to compete for all kinds of trade and with different classes of customers. Write at once for terms to Herrick Seed Company, Rochester, N. Y. 12-15 3m

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Greek Story of the First Woman

The first woman created, according to heathen Greek mythology, was Pandora. She was made of clay by Vulcan, at the request of Jupiter, who wished to punish the impiety of Prometheus by giving him a wife. When this woman of clay had received life, all the gods vied in making her presents. Venus gave her beauty, the Graces gave her the power of captivating, Apollo taught her music, Mercury instructed her in eloquence and Minerva gave her the most splendid ornaments. From these presents received from the gods the woman was called Pandora, which intimates that she had received every necessary gift.

Prometheus was too artful to marry this woman and could not be captivated by her charms, but his brother, Epimetheus, who was not so prudent, married her instead, and upon opening a box which she presented to him there issued from it a multitude of evils, which dispersed themselves over the world and still continue to afflict the human race. Hope only remained at the bottom to assuage the troubles and sorrows of life.

"Who can tell me the meaning of leisure?" asked the teacher. "It's a place where married people repent," replied the boy at the foot of the class.

Two Pittston constables have been removed from office for failing to report violations of the liquor law. The average constable is as blind as a bat where violations of the liquor law are concerned.

IF THERE'S A HINT OF CATARRH TAINST apply Dr. Agnew's Catarrh Powder without delay. It will save you suffering, heal you quickly whether you have been a slave one month or fifty years. It relieves cold in the head and catarrh headaches in ten minutes. The Hon. David Mills, Minister of Justice for the Dominion of Canada, endorses it. 50 cents.—65 Sold by C. A. Kleim.

"Give me your candid opinion of my painting," requested D'Auber. "It's worthless," replied Cyclicus. "Yes; I know it's worthless, but let me have it anyway."

NO HEART TOO BAD TO BE CURED.—Testimony could be piled high in commendation of the wonderful cures wrought by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. No case stands against this great remedy where it did not relieve the most acute heart sufferings inside of thirty minutes. It attacks the disease in an instant after being taken.—66 Sold by C. A. Kleim.

A conscientious woman will keep a secret even if she has to call in one, or two friends to help her.

FILL-PRICE.—The days of 25 cents a box for pills are numbered. Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills at 10 cents a vial are surer, safer and pleasanter to take. Cure Constipation, Sick and Nervous Headaches, Dizziness, Lassitude, Heartburn, Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, and all troubles arising from liver disorder.—67 Sold by C. A. Kleim.

The detective believes that a jail-bird in the handcuff is worth two in the "push."

DOCTORED NINE YEARS FOR TETTER.—Mr. James Gaston, merchant, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., writes: "For nine years I have been disfigured with Tetter on my hands and face. At last I found a cure in Dr. Agnew's Ointment. It helped me from the first application, and now I am permanently cured."—68 Sold by C. A. Kleim.

Wigg—"What has become of the old-fashioned doctor who used to cup and bleed?" Wagg—"Well, I don't know much about cupping, but I guess you haven't had any doctors' bills lately, or you would know that they still bleed you."

Blue Island, Ill., Jan. 14, 1901. MESSRS. ELY BROS.—I have used your Cream Balm in my family for nine years and it has become my family doctor for colds in the head. I use it freely on my children. It is a Godsend to children. Yours respectfully, J. KIMBALL.

MESSRS. ELY BROS.—I suffered greatly with catarrh and tried different remedies without effect. After using one bottle of your Cream Balm I found relief and I cannot praise too highly such a remedy. MISS CORA WILLARD, Albany, N. Y.

The chap who says he loves a girl Far more than tongue can tell His purse might show, for he should know That money talks as well.

The worries of a weak and sick mother are only begun with the birth of her child, for day her work is constantly interrupted and at night her rest is broken by the wailing of the peevish, puny infant. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription makes weak women strong and sick women well. It lightens all the burdens of maternity, giving to mothers strength and vigor, which they impart to their children. In over thirty years of practice Dr. Pierce and his associate staff of nearly a score of physicians have treated and cured more than half a million suffering women. Sick women are invited to consult Dr. Pierce by letter free of charge. All correspondence is strictly private. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y.

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WANTED—FAITHFUL PERSON TO TRAVEL for well established house in a few counties calling on retail merchants and agents. Local territory. Salary \$1024 a year and expenses, payable \$19.7 a week in cash and expenses advanced. Position permanent. Business successful and flourishing. Standard House, 334 Dearborn Street, Chicago. 12-15 166

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