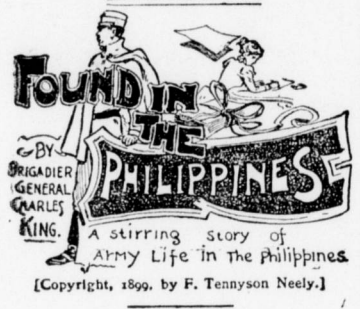


RISE OF THE AWKWARD BOY.

He longed to be great and he longed to rise. And they laughed at him; He studied books till he strained his eyes. And they laughed at him!



CHAPTER V.

There had been a morning of jubilee in the camp of the Fifth Separate brigade, and a row in the tents of the regulars. Up to within a fortnight such a state of affairs would have been considered abnormal.

What made it worse was the allegation that several others, non-commissioned officers and "special duty men," were mixed up in the matter, and Canker had rapped the whole commissioned force present for duty in his lecture upon the subject and had almost intimated that officers were conniving at the concealment of the guilt of their sergeants rather than have it leak out that the felony was committed in a company of their commanding.

He and Gordon had had what was described as a "red-hot" row, all because Gordon flatly declared that while something was queer about the case of the young clerk, he'd bet his bottom dollar he wasn't a thief.

"Well, I'll be blessed!" said Mr. Gray, as he rolled out of his gray blanket. "Here's a state of things! Listen to this, captain," he called to his company commander in the adjoining tent.

The lad flushed. Fraternity was a very sacred thing in the A. E. U. It was "the most exclusive crowd at the 'varsity.' Its membership was pledged to one another by unusual ties. It was the hardest society for a fellow to get into in any one of the seven colleges where it flourished, and its mystic bonds were not shaken off with the silken gown and "mortar board" of undergraduate days.

No wonder Gray stood for a moment, the paper still in his hands, irresolute, even disturbed. Not to answer the appeal meant to run counter to all the tenets of his fraternity. To answer might mean arrest and court-martial for deliberate disobedience of orders.

Now, Mr. Lawrence was away on business of his own. Written assurances that he couldn't be mistaken lost weight, and Mr. Prime, disheartened, was merely waiting the report of an agent who thought he had traced the boy to Tampa.

"I am a total stranger to you, but I wore in brighter days the badge of the same society that was yours at the university. Three of the fraternity are in my company—one is on guard and he urged me to write at once to you. They know me to be a brother Delt, even though I dare not tell my real name."

All this detail, or much of it, he had learned from the fair lips of Miss Lawrence herself, for Mr. Prime and his daughter seemed to shrink from speaking of the matter. From the first Miss Amy had under the young gentleman under her personal wing, as it were. In her desire to aid her uncle and cousins in every way, and knowing them to be strangers to the entire camp, she had eagerly sent for him as the first familiar or friendly object she saw.

Then came an inspiration! Pencil-ing a brief note he gave it to a soldier of his company and bade him take it to the guard tents. It told Morton of the colonel's orders, issued that very day, and bade him be patient—he hoped and believed opportunity would be afforded for an interview that evening.



"Will you swap tours with me if Gordon's willing?"

counting on his fingers. "Wait till I look at my notebook. Friday? Why, that's the night of the Burton's card party—thought you didn't know them."

"I don't," said Gray, glad enough to escape the other question. "And you hate card parties, you know you do. It's a go, is it? I'll see Gordon at once."

"Mr. Gordon," said he, "here's more of this pilfering business, and now they're beginning to find out it isn't all in my camp by a damned sight. I want that letter copied at once."

Kelly and it saves my sending another officer and having two of our lieutenants away from drill and hanging around the Bohemian club. Detail somebody else!"

"All right, sir," answered Gordon, imperturbably. "Make any odds, sir, who is detailed?" Canker had turned to his desk and was tossing over the papers with nervous hand.

"Think not, sir. Supplies limited. Officer of the day reported half an hour ago every set was in use. Sent over to division quartermaster and he answered we had a dozen more and we were entitled to now. Wanted to know if we meant to iron the whole regiment."

"Hopping mad," as he himself afterward expressed it, Col. Canker had ridden over to "have it out" with the quartermaster who had ventured to comment on his methods, but the sight of the commanding general, standing alone at the entrance to his private tent, his pale face grayer than ever and a world of trouble in his eyes, compelled Canker to stop short.

[To Be Continued.]

Certainly Worth Something. In a rural community in one of the middle states dwelt a man who made a vow in 1856 that he would wear his hair and beard untrimmed until John C. Fremont should be elected president of the United States.

Would Not Tell Her Name.

She had just come up from Mississippi to "hire out" in Memphis, and all of her friends at home promised to write to her. After the new of the city wore off and the ache of homesickness began to make itself felt she went to the "general delivery" at the post office to inquire for her mail.

Another Convert.

Miles—What do you think of this faith-cure business? Giles—Oh, it's all right. I tried it once and was completely cured.

Sufficient.

Mrs. Ashley—Isn't this new prayer rug of mine pretty? Mr. Speakey—Yes, but isn't it very small?

A Correct Guess.

Brown—What do you think of the walking dresses the women have now? "They'll not wear them long."—Detroit Free Press.

ENDORSED BRYAN.

Pennsylvania Democrats Hold a Convention.

Candidates for State Offices are Nominated and the 64 Delegates to the National Convention are Instructed to Vote as a Unit—The Platform.

Harrisburg, April 6.—The 64 delegates from Pennsylvania to the national democratic convention in Kansas City were instructed by yesterday's state convention to support William J. Bryan for president. They are bound by the unit rule and can not change to any other presidential aspirant unless it be so decided by a majority of the delegation.

Auditor General—P. Gray Meek, of Centre county.

Congressmen-at-Large—Harry E. Grim, of Bucks county; N. M. Edwards, of Williamsport.

Electors-at-Large—Gen. A. H. Coffroth, of Somerset; Otto Germer, of Erie; Francis Shunk Brown, of Philadelphia; Andrew Kaul, of Elk.

The following delegates-at-large to the national convention were chosen: Col. James M. Guffey, of Pittsburg; ex-Gov. Pattison, of Philadelphia; John B. Keenan, of Greensburg; Congressman Rufus K. Polk, of Danville; Charles J. Reilly, of Williamsport; ex-Congressman James M. Kerr, of Clearfield; ex-State Chairman John M. Garman, of Nanticoke; ex-Congressman William H. Sowden, of Allentown.

The platform begins with a demand for a thorough revision of the tariff and declares in favor of such duties only as are necessary for an economical administration of public affairs. Democratic congressmen are urged to secure the enactment of a law making it obligatory upon the secretary of the treasury to place on the free list every article of raw material and manufactured product now used and manufactured by any trust, monopoly or combine.

Faithful enforcement of the anti-trust act of 1890 is demanded and opposition to what is termed the imperialism of the present administration is announced. Home rule for the Philippines under the protection of the United States is favored. It is demanded that the army be withdrawn from Cuba and that congress observe the pledge made to that people.

"We demand for the people of Porto Rico the right of freely importing and exporting to and from any part of the United States; we denounce the sinister influences that have caused the president to depart from that which he termed a 'plain duty.'"

"We deplore the subservience of the present administration to the bests of England and English statesmen, whether the same be intentional or caused by the ignorance of our officials in the state department. We denounce the Hay-Pauncefote treaty as a complete abandonment of the claims of our statesmen of our right to construct and control an inter-oceanic canal, and as un-American and a base surrender of our inherent right of self-defense.

"We denounce as at variance with our rights of citizenship and destructive of the rights of a free man the use of the army of the United States and the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus and declarations of martial law in times of peace, in order that labor may be intimidated and labor organizations broken up."

"We declare in favor of an inter-oceanic canal controlled and protected by this country; no further surrender of Alaskan territory; fortification of strategic points on the Pacific; no entangling alliance with England or other country, secret or open; free trade with Porto Rico; independence of Cuba; home rule for the Philippine islands; no subject people; no colonial dependencies; eternal opposition to trusts; a vigorous foreign policy; and an income tax."

The election of United States senators by a vote of the people is favored.

Bimetallism is favored as tending to make permanent the prosperity of the country and "freeing us from the power of the money trust." Sympathy to the Boers is extended and it is declared "that the war of conquest now being carried on by the British empire in its greed for gold and power is a menace to advancing civilization. We favor united action on the part of all the republics of the world to maintain the independent existence of the two republics in South Africa."

Increase in our standing army is opposed as a menace to free government and the supremacy of the civil over the military authorities is insisted upon.

Trusts are denounced and legislation to curb their power is favored. Municipal ownership of public franchises is demanded.

The appointment of M. S. Quay as United States senator by Gov. Stone is denounced.

Naval Officers Convicted of Fraud.

Odessa, April 6.—The military court at Sebastopol has closed the hearing of the great naval scandal and has convicted 26 officers and civil servants of criminally defrauding the government in connection with the supply of coal and other commodities to the navy. The sentences will be pronounced to-day.

Nethersole Is Acquitted.

New York, April 6.—The jury in the case of Olga Nethersole, accused of maintaining a nuisance in performing the play "Sappho," yesterday returned a verdict of not guilty.

A SUCCESSFUL FARMER.

Within three miles of the town going eastward is the farm of Mr. W. Creamer, one of the municipality's largest and most prosperous mixed farmers. Mr. Creamer came to this country in 1880 and settled on a portion of the land which comprises his present enormous farm of 1,280 acres. In common with many others of a similar period he experienced all the hardships and difficulties common to the absence of railway and market facilities. In no wise daunted, by energy, industry and indomitable will he has been able to surmount all obstacles and has achieved an unparalleled success, and is known throughout the district as one of its preeminent farmers. His operations extend over 1,280 acres, two sections (the thought alone of so much land makes the eastern farmer dizzy); 800 acres of this is broken and the remainder is excellent pasture land and wood. This harvest he took off a crop of 500 acres of wheat and 200 of other grains. Four hundred acres are plowed and ready for wheat next spring. Mr. Creamer is, as has been stated, a mixed farmer of no mean proportions, having at the present time 40 horses, 60 head of cattle and 50 pigs. The most modern farm buildings are found on his premises, the main building being a barn 55 feet square on a stone foundation containing stabling for 16 horses and a large number of cattle. The loft is stored with 29 loads of sheaf oats for feed and tons of hay; there is also a cutting box. Another building of large dimensions is the granary, in which after teaming large quantities to market he still has stored 3,000 bushels of wheat. A crushing machine is in the building. There are a number of lesser buildings containing chicken house, pig pens and cattle sheds. The farm residence is a handsome frame structure of ample proportions, in connection with it is a wood shed. The water supply is unexcelled; besides house supply there is a well in the stables and a never failing spring situate in a bluff, which never freezes. Surrounded by a thick bluff of poplars, extending in a semi circle to the west, north and east, the winter storms are broken and accumulation of snow unknown. Added to his farming operations, Mr. Creamer conducts a threshing outfit for the season. His success is only one instance of what can be accomplished in Western Canada.—Baldur (Man.) Gazette, Nov. 16th, 1899.

Thousands are going to Western Canada this year to take advantage of the free homestead laws that are being offered by the government.

A Hit Rough.

In the course of the fearful march of the Irish fusiliers from Dundee to Ladysmith the men were much fatigued, owing to the rough journey.

One man in particular stumbled along as if walking in his sleep. An officer passed.

"Sir," asked Michael, "what country is this at all we're marching over?"

"The Natal table-land, my man," was the reply.

"Bedad, sir," said Pat, "I think the table's turned upside down and we're walking over the legs of it."—London Answers.

Reception Music.

"Shall I sing, or play, Mr. Bored-hose?"

"Oh, it doesn't matter, Miss Blimm—whichever you think you can do without interrupting the flow of conversation."—Detroit Free Press.

In Newsboy's Alley.

"You're de inside of a bunghole!" yelled Jimmy.

"You're de center of a cruller!" retorted Micky.—Chicago Evening News.

A MOTHER'S STORY.

Tells About Her Daughter's Illness and How She was Relieved—Two Letters to Mrs. Pinkham.

"MRS. PINKHAM:—I write to tell you about my daughter. She is nineteen years old and is flowing all the time, and has been for over three months. The doctor does her but very little good, if any. I thought I would try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, but I want your advice before beginning its use. I have become very much alarmed about her, as she is getting so weak."—MRS. MATILDA A. CAMP, Manchester Mill, Macon, Ga., May 21, 1899.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—It affords me great pleasure to tell you of the benefit my daughter has received from the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. After beginning the use of your medicine she began to mend rapidly and is now able to be at her work. Her menses are regular and almost painless. I feel very thankful to you and expect to always keep your Vegetable Compound in my house. It is the best medicine I ever knew. You have my permission to publish this letter if you wish, it may be the means of doing others good."—MRS. MATILDA A. CAMP, Manchester Mill, Macon, Ga., September 18, 1899.

