

MOLLY-CODDLE

By B. A. BENEDICT

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"I DON'T care," said Cleo, angrily, "if you are my boss. I'm the girl you're going to marry, and I should be treated with more—more respect."

"Nuts!" said Jerry Alcus.

"Listen, baby, what are you; a cream puff? Will you spill or something if you're yelled at? Now, file this bunch of letters and act human. I'm too busy to argue."

"Oh," said Cleo, "is that so?"

She tossed her titian head haughtily, or what she thought was haughtily, and stood up.

The pile of letters which had been lying in her lap fell to the floor and skimmed about in every direction. Ignoring them, in fact, tramping on them, Cleo marched to the coat rack, pulled her hat saucily over one eye and wrinkled her nose at Jerry Alcus.

"In that case, Mr. Alcus, you can take your job and your marriage proposal and—and run up a tree!"

She had reached the elevator and was about to step aboard when Jerry caught up with her.

"Listen," he said, "you don't mean that. You know I love you, and I don't think you're crazy enough to want me to let my business go to pot just to make a molly-coddle out of you."

"All I want," said Cleo stiffly, "is to be treated with respect, and not yelled at. However," she added, "it's too late now."

"Wait'll I get my hat," said Jerry, "and we'll go out to lunch and talk this over."

Trustingly, he left her and went back for his hat. Cleo wrinkled her nose again at his departing figure and stepped into the elevator.

Reaching the lower floor, she quickened her pace, walked two blocks north and one east, and summoned a taxi.

Ten minutes later she entered the lobby of the Capitan hotel.

A young man wearing spats and carrying a walking stick, came rushing across the lobby. His eyes glistened.

"It was awfully sweet of you to come. Frankly, I was a little afraid you wouldn't."



"All I Want," said Cleo. Stiffly, "is to be treated with respect."

"You were! After I promised?"

"Oh, I say. I didn't mean to offend. I mean, I was afraid something might detain you."

"Are you taking me to lunch at the Capitan?" Cleo asked.

"Would you like to go there? They say the food is good and they have music."

Seated across from Larry Metcalf at a little secluded table in the Capitan luncheon room, Cleo felt perfectly happy.

It was extremely satisfying to be the object of so much attention, of being catered to.

Comparing Larry to Jerry Alcus, she felt like laughing. Not by the wildest stretch of the imagination could she picture Jerry insisting to the head-waiter that their table be placed out of the draft, or helping her to remove her jacket, or making tentative suggestions for her luncheon. Rather, Jerry would be concerned with his own personal comfort.

Cleo looked across at Larry fondly.

It would be marvelous, she thought, being married to a man who was forever being careful of you.

It was the sort of thing that made a girl love a man and want to make him happy.

She must be careful not to discourage Larry in his efforts to please.

After lunch, Larry called a taxi, made sure the window was not down too far on her side, tentatively suggested a drive in the park, agreed with every remark she made about the weather, scenery, business conditions and general political outlook.

An hour later he deposited her at her apartment and asked if he might call that evening.

"Or do you think you'll be too tired?" he asked.

"I'd love to go out," Cleo said. "Call about eight."

Waiting for Larry that night, Cleo thought about him and regretted the fact that she had met him only two days ago.

It was grand knowing some one like Larry.

Larry arrived at eight sharp. They attended a theater. Later they had supper.

At one o'clock they arrived back in Cleo's apartment.

At the door Cleo yawned. Instantly Larry's face grew worried.

"You're tired," he said.

"I'll run along. Forgive me for keeping you up so late."

"Why, I'm not one bit tired," Cleo said.

"There's no need to hurry. Come in and I'll mix a cocktail."

Larry smiled and shook his head. "You're very kind. I'd feel guilty about it. I know you have to get up early in the morning."

Cleo opened her mouth to argue the point, and closed it again. A moment later Larry was gone.

She sat down and yawned once more. Well, perhaps she was tired. At any rate, now that Larry was gone, it seemed easy to relax.

Somewhat of a strain trying to keep up with his many attentions. . . . She thought of Jerry.

A knock sounded on the door. She opened it, and there stood Jerry. "Listen, baby," he said, pushing his way into the room, "who was that bird I just saw leaving the place? Was he up here? With you? Don't tell me you're running around with him?"

"Jerry Alcus, you walk straight out of here!"

"Pipe down, kid, and mix me a drink. I've got a bone to pick with you. What's the idea of running out on me this noon?"

"When I left you this noon, I never intended to see you again."

"That's all right, baby, if you mean it. I been looking for you everywhere. Now, let's have it out. Are you serious?"

Strangely, Cleo no longer felt tired. And strangely, too, she felt perfectly relaxed.

There was nothing strained about the atmosphere.

Jerry sat sprawled in a chair and lit a cigarette.

He hadn't offered her a cigarette and he hadn't remained standing until she sat down. He went on: "You know I love you, I think we could get along. How about that drink?"

Cleo's eyes blazed. "Please leave this apart at once!"

"O. K.," baby. Give me my ring, and I'll go."

"Ring?" Cleo caught her breath.

She looked down at the third finger of her left hand. It was a little ring, but it had meant so much. She slipped it off. She handed it to him, without looking up. But instead of taking it, he grasped her hand and pulled her into his arms.

"Is this good-by, kid?"

"Oh, Jerry, do you want it to be?" Jerry didn't answer.

He kissed her and pulled her down on his lap.

"Let's talk it over, baby."

They talked, and presently Cleo began to cry. She admitted she had made a mistake going out with Larry. He was sickeningly attentive. He gave her a pain. She didn't want to be molly-coddled all her life.

Jerry yawned.

Cleo looked at him tenderly. "You'd better go home, dear, and get some sleep. You must be tired."

"O. K.," said Jerry. "I guess I am. You had me going for a while." He stood up and crossed to the door.

"Don't you ever pull one like that again. I can't stand it."

Cleo laughed.

"You great, big baby! I love you." She kissed him. "It's going to be fun molly-coddling you."

Crows on Electric Wires

Put Out City's Lights

Much trouble has been experienced all over the world by birds causing short circuits on electric wires. Not long ago a flock of crows perching on the electric power cables of the city of Heijo, in Korea, put out all the lights, brought the tramway to a standstill, stopped the work of a number of factories and closed the cinemas, says Pearson's Weekly.

When man took to stretching skeins of telegraph wires across the great open spaces of Australia, where nesting sites for birds are few and far between, numbers of magpies welcomed them with delight and built their large untidy nests of twigs in the wires, thus setting up short circuits. The authorities had to attach brackets to the poles, away from the wires, with artificial nests built in them. The magpies gratefully accepted these ready-made residences, and left the wires alone.

In Britain, birds are often killed by flying on to live wires. Large numbers of valuable racing pigeons have been killed by colliding with the cables of the national electricity grid. In Middlesex, 27 were picked up dead around one pylon on a single day. A marked improvement was made near Aberdeen by placing corks along the earthwires.

In Cornwall and other regions around our coasts corks on the telegraph wires save thousands of bird migrants' lives—and the expense of mending hundreds of wires broken by geese and other heavy fowl.

Suez Canal Has No Locks

The Suez canal is built at sea level and has no locks. Port Said is at the Mediterranean end and was named for Said Pasha. He was the Egyptian viceroy at the time the canal was built. Port Said was erected on a low, sandy coast. Its harbor is muddied by the waters of an arm of the Nile. From Suez, at the southern end of the canal, the mountains of Sinai peninsula, one of which is said to be the Mount Sinai of the Bible, can be seen. Some believe that the crossing of the Red sea by the children of Israel may have taken place near the southern end of what is now the canal.

Laws of Falling Bodies

The laws of falling bodies, when applied to the earth and all the other heavenly bodies, have proved themselves absolutely infallible—and there is no mystery in that field which they cannot explain. Gravitation was found to be the force which holds the whole universe together. But even at that, nobody yet knows what this force is.

Recalling Some Forgotten

"Civil Wars"

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON



PEAK of a civil war in the United States and the average American immediately thinks of the battles fought between the men in blue and the men in gray from 1861 to 1865. But this great conflict, which found 19 northern commonwealths pitting their man-power and their wealth against that of 11 southern states, was not the only "war between the states" in our history.

Just a hundred years ago two northern states were having a lively little civil war all of their own in which there were "raids" and "invasions" by armed forces and in which bloodshed was averted only by the intervention of the President of the United States. That was the "Toledo war" of 1835 between Michigan and Ohio.

This "war" had its origin away back in 1755 when John Mitchell, an English physician and scientist, published in London a great map of America in eight large sheets. This map was accepted as the basis for determining the boundaries from that time until after the treaty of peace which ended the Revolution. Mitchell's idea of the lay of the land in the Old Northwest was rather hazy, so there were a number of errors in his map. Some of these were fortunate for the United States, for they enabled the new nation to lay claim to more land than it would have obtained if the map had been correct. But it was one of these errors which led eventually to the "Toledo war."

Mitchell made the mistake of charting the foot of Lake Michigan in latitude 41 degrees, 20 minutes, instead of 41 degrees, 37 minutes. His map was used as a guide in 1787 when congress adopted an ordinance for the government of the Northwest Territory, including the present states of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin. The ordinance provided that two of the five states should lie "north of an east and west line drawn through the southern bend or extreme of Lake Michigan." The preamble of the ordinance also stated that its articles should "forever remain unalterable unless by common consent."

In 1802 congress authorized the people of Ohio to form a state government for entrance into the Union. Accordingly a convention was held to draw up a constitution. A trapper told the dele-

gnor Lucas or otherwise indicated allegiance to Ohio. One of them was a frontier notable, Maj. B. F. Stickney, a venerable and wealthy citizen who had been Indian agent at Fort Wayne, Ind. during the War of 1812. In order to annoy him and force him to give bonds for his release, thus acknowledging the jurisdiction of Michigan, they threw him into the same cell with a dirty, ragged old Frenchman who had been imprisoned for debt. But Stickney outguessed them. He gave the Frenchman enough money to pay his debt and thus secured the freedom of the vermin-infested debtor and gained the sole occupancy of the cell.

Next the Ohio legislature in special session appropriated \$300,000 and authorized its fighting governor to borrow \$300,000 more to maintain Ohio's jurisdiction over the Lake Erie strip. The Ohio adjutant general reported to Lucas that 10,000 militia were ready to march and drive the Michiganders out of Lucas county where fights between the rival factions were occurring almost daily. Although there had been no fatalities as yet, the situation became so serious that President Andrew Jackson felt it advisable to step in and have both states declare a truce until congress could settle the dispute.

In congress Illinois and Indiana lined up solidly behind Ohio and its cause was further aided in August, 1835, when Governor Mason was removed from office for displaying too much war-



like temperament. The final congressional compromise which was accepted by both states, thus bringing the "war" to an end, recognized Ohio's boundary claims, including her right to the city of Toledo. To compensate Michigan for the loss of this important lake port, congress gave her what is now known as the Upper Peninsula.

Michigan didn't think much of her new territory at first but when rich deposits of copper and iron ore were discovered in the Upper Peninsula, she was glad enough to have the land containing all this natural wealth. Years later, because of the acquisition of the region, Michigan became involved with another state in another boundary dispute.

In 1921 a resolution was offered in the Wisconsin legislature inviting the people of the Upper Peninsula to secede from Michigan, from which it is separated by water, and become a part of the Badger state, to which it is joined by land. The resolution was rejected but representatives from the peninsula followed it up with a proposal that they be permitted to form a separate state to be called Superior.

Next the Michigan legislature appointed a committee to investigate the question of the boundary line between Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula, and appropriated \$10,000 for its expenses. It was asserted that surveyors chose the wrong fork of the Montreal river when they ran their lines and that 300 square miles of territory, including the town of Hurley, Wis., "the richest village in the world," really belonged to Michigan. When Gov. John J. Blaine of Wisconsin declined to arbitrate the question, the committee recommended to Governor Sleeper of Michigan that he bring suit to recover these 300 square miles for the Wolverine state. However, nothing came of this proposed "civil war" which was to have been fought out by lawyers instead of armed men.

The same error in the Mitchell map which caused the "Toledo war" was destined to affect also the boundary relationships between Wisconsin and Illinois, although it never precipitated a crisis as it did in the case of Michigan and Ohio. Back in 1818, when Illinois was about to become a state, Nathaniel Pope, her delegate in congress, argued for a northern boundary, where the Englishman's map showed the foot of Lake

common interest well-nigh indissoluble. By the adoption of such a line Illinois may become at some future time the keystone to the perpetuity of the Union."

Pope's prophecy was more accurate than he could possibly have realized at the time. For congress heeded his plea and gave the new state the site of the future city of Chicago and a strip of territory running 61 miles north from the foot of the lake and west to the Mississippi. And this did result in making Illinois a "keystone to the perpetuity of the Union."

Had the original boundary, as established by the ordinance of 1787, prevailed, Chicago would have been in Wisconsin. In that case it is a question if the city would have become so great as it has. For the Illinois and Michigan canal and the Illinois Central railroad, both of which contributed so much to Chicago's early growth, were due wholly to the enterprise of the state and probably would not have been built to a city in an adjoining state.

Having a port on the Great Lakes bound the commercial interests of Illinois with those of the North and, despite a large immigration from the South throughout most of her territory, made her a "Northern state" in the coming struggle of 1861-65. Moreover, the votes of 14 counties, formed from the strip of land given to Illinois by this decision, made Illinois a Republican state and assured the candidacy of Abraham Lincoln for President. It also gave her the city of Galena, the home of a man named Ulysses S. Grant.

In later years this strip figured in a dispute between Illinois and Wisconsin because of an error made by the surveyors in running the boundary line. A wedge-shaped piece of Illinois is actually in Wisconsin at one end of the line and a part of Wisconsin is in Illinois at the other. Some citizens of Illinois believe that Beloit, Wis., is in reality in Illinois and during an Illinois constitutional convention in 1920 it was proposed to demand a new survey in order to justify that claim. Thereupon Wisconsin retorted that she would lay claim to Chicago and all the rich suburbs to the north under the "forever unalterable" provisions of the Ordinance of 1787. So the matter was hastily dropped.

The errors of the English map-maker and the mistakes of surveyors, resulting in disputed boundary lines in the Old Northwest, have not been the only ones, however, which have caused trouble between states. There have been other potential "civil wars," but, unlike the "Toledo war," they have been waged in the courts rather than in the field. One of them began in Colonial times—in 1681, when King Charles of England granted William Penn the 29,000,000 acres that later became the state of Pennsylvania. Immediately Penn became involved in a dispute with Lord Baltimore of Maryland, his neighbor to the south, when it was discovered that the



GOV. STEVENS T. MASON

line originally set between the two colonies passed north of Philadelphia and placed that city in Maryland, besides excluding Pennsylvania from Delaware bay. Negotiations to correct this mistake covered nearly a century before an agreement was finally reached and during that time there was a long period of litigation in the English courts.

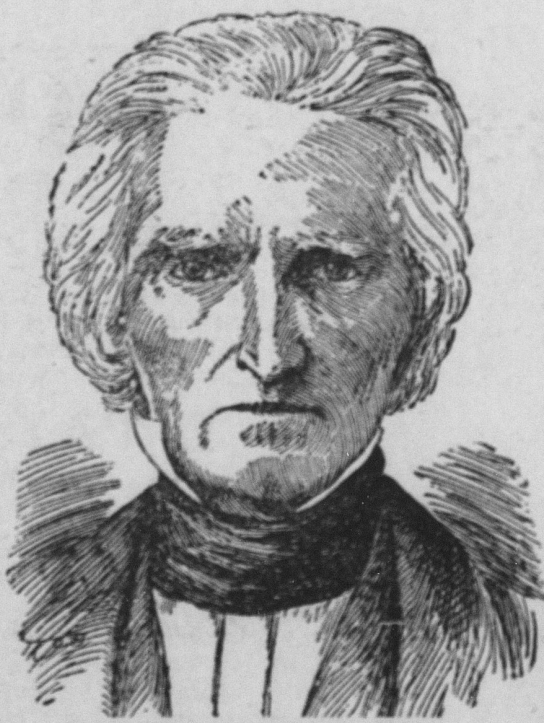
The Penns won a legal victory there in 1750 and both sides were directed to proceed within 90 days to lay out and mark the boundary line. Accordingly commissioners were appointed and met in New Castle, Del., that fall. But again a dispute arose and the wrangling of the commissioners prevented the surveyors from accomplishing any work. Finally the Penns decided to go ahead anyway and engaged surveyors who set to work in December. Before they could complete their work they lost their shelter and supplies by fire and almost perished in the wilderness. The next year the commissioners met again and accepted the work of the surveyors, incomplete though it was, and placed stone markers where they had set their stakes.

Nothing more was done about completing the survey until 1760 when a new agreement was signed by the proprietors of the two colonies. But the surveyors had done such a poor job that the Penns and the Calverts sent to England for two famous mathematicians, Charles Dixon and Jeremiah Mason, to come over here and run the boundary line.

Mason and Dixon started in 1763 and did not finish until 1767. But they did their job well, for when a resurvey was made 130 years later with modern instruments and modern methods, the position found for the northeast corner of Maryland differed only 180 feet from the position which they had established. The original stones for the five-mile marks on this line were carved in England from limestone with Lord Baltimore's coat of arms on one side and the Penn arms on the other. The boundary which they established later became famous as the "Mason and Dixon Line," a mythical dividing line between the North and the South in the dispute over slavery, one of the main issues in the greatest civil war in all history.

This boundary dispute between Maryland and Pennsylvania was not unique in American history, however. For almost every English colony, at one time or another, was at odds with her neighbor over their dividing line. Some of the disputes persisted after they became states and had to be settled in the Supreme court.

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GOV. ROBERT LUCAS

gates that the actual foot of Lake Michigan was some distance south of the point shown on Mitchell's map. So the canny Buckeyes, determined to get all that was coming to them, stipulated that if the east and west line laid down by congress should fall so far south as to miss Lake Erie, Ohio would then claim all territory to the northernmost cape of Miami bay.

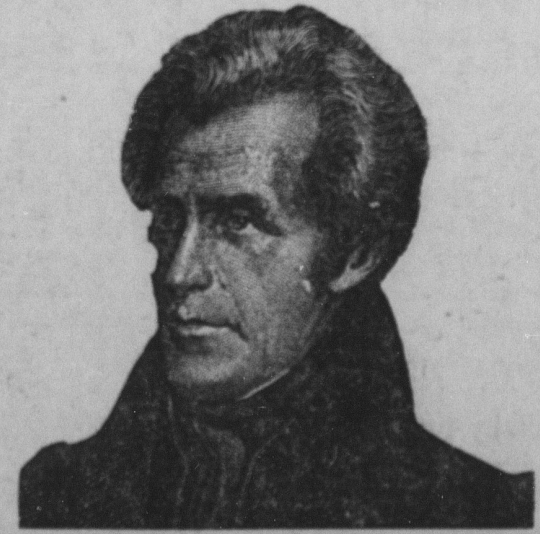
In 1805 congress created the territory of Michigan and fixed its southern boundary as provided by the Ordinance of 1787. The result was that the new territory claimed a strip of land some five or six miles wide across the entire southern side of Lake Erie, including the port of Toledo. "But," retorted the Buckeyes, "that's our land. We laid claim to it three years ago and we intend to have it." So there was an acrid dispute which dragged along unsettled for 30 years.

In 1835 Michigan was about to become a state and sought to enforce its claim on the Lake Erie strip. By that time Ohio had its Miami and Erie canal system under construction and wanted an outlet for it in Toledo. Stevens T. Mason, territorial governor of Michigan, denounced this "Ohio steal" and the people of his state backed him up in his determination to assert Michigan's claim to the Lake Erie strip. In March, 1835, he rushed a thousand Michigan militiamen into Toledo, resolved to hold it against the Buckeyes at all costs.

At the same time Gov. Robert Lucas of Ohio called out his militia and marched to Perrysburg with 600 of them to protect the Ohio surveyors who were running a northern boundary line—far enough north to include Toledo. Moreover, the Ohio legislature formed a county out of the disputed territory, including Toledo, and gave it the name of Lucas in honor of their governor.

When the Michigan militia forcibly ejected the Ohio surveyors, it was up to Lucas to assert not only military but judicial sovereignty over this region. He began issuing commissions to county officers and at midnight one night, while the Michigan defenders of Toledo slept, a group of Buckeyes stole into the town with law books and judicial papers and hurriedly went through the formalities of "holding court." Having done this, they raced their horses back to the protection of the Ohio troops.

Michigan's resort to such actions was to catch and imprison every inhabitant of the disputed territory who accepted a commission from Gov-



PRESIDENT ANDREW JACKSON

Michigan to be, instead of the bend where it actually is. He declared that the direction of the new state's commerce would be determined by its waterways and, if Illinois were shut off from the lake, that commerce would follow the streams which flowed into the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, thus affiliating its interests with those of the South. Foreseeing the possibility of "an attempted dismemberment of the Union," he predicted that "Illinois will cast her lot with the southern states. On the other hand, to fix the northern boundary of Illinois upon such a parallel of latitude as would give to the state territorial jurisdiction over the southwestern shores of Lake Michigan, would be to unite the incipient commonwealth to the states of Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York in a bond of