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Pattern 5953

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Coleridge said truly: "Shakespeare has no innocent adulteries, no virtuous vices." . . . Macbeth reached the height of his ambition, but he lost his own soul.

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# Frank Merriwell Gilbert Patten at Fardale

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when he left them.

the stretch.

Away they sped toward the grove

for which Bart Hodge had headed

against a mad dog with that knife,

Merry?" panted the Irish boy.
"It's better than nothing," Frank

Mulloy had a notion that he could

run, but he found himself losing

ground before they had covered half

the distance to the grove. He was

doing his utmost and Merriwell was

steadily pulling away from him. The

fellow was doing it like a sprinter

making a dash or a race horse in

the grove did Frank slow down. The

underbrush and smaller trees had

been cleared away, making the

grove a pleasant place for a pic-

nic. Almost at once he caught a

glimpse of the girls, not far away.

Not to frighten them too much, he

ceased to run and walked forward

Hodge was there. His coat was

had fine, muscular arms. At the

moment he was posing for Inza Bur-

rage to snap his picture with her

camera. Seven other girls were

flexing his arms and making his

"The noble son of toil," said Bart,

"That's not a bad suggestion,"

Hodge jerked round and stared at

"Why, if it isn't Mr. Merri-

looking on. All were laughing.

muscles bulge. "Shoot him."

said Frank, approaching.

one than that, boob?"

call. Listen!"

ened sheep.

Mad dog! Mad dog!"

and he was seen coming this way."

"This one takes the blue ribbon."

Inza put up her hand. "Be still!"

From not very far away came the

"Mad dog! Run, everybody! Run!

CHAPTER III

That cry of terror from Tad Jones

caused the girls to utter little gasps

and squeals of alarm. They hud-

dled together like a flock of fright-

But Bart Hodge was too smart to

be fooled, even by that. He didn't

the grove from which the cry had

come. Anger sent the hot blood into

"So you've even got that ragged

little shrimp to help you pull off

another of your bum tricks, Merri-

well," he snarled. "As a joker

on Hodge. In strong contrast to

Bart's, his face was tense and gray.

instantly, Mulloy," he said in a voice that was far from steady.

Frank wasted no more attention

"Get these girls away from here

Even as he spoke he saw the

creature coming, a tawny, leaping

form amid the trees. A moment

before that, his heart had seemed

to be crouching in his breast, as

still as a cat at the hole of a mouse.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

you're just a dirty deuce.'

"See that they go, too."

cast a glance toward the part of

voice of Tad Jones, crying in ter-

she said. "I thought I heard a

ed visitor."

once.

Not until he was at the edge of

flung back over his shoulder.

"What do you think you can do

#### SYNOPSIS

When Bart Hodge, a vain youth of sixteen, alights from a train at Fardale, he stumbles over a half-blind dog and in a rage kicks the animal. The dog's owner, Tad Jones, a small, shabby boy who supports his widowed mother, denounces him. This nettles Bart and he slaps Tad. Frank Merriwell, an orphan of Hodge's age, prevents him from further molesting Tad. Although the two do not come to blows, Hodge sneeringly says they will have to settle their differences later. He and Merriwell had come to Fardale to attend Fardale academy. While Hodge consults Joe Bemis, truck driver for John Snodd, about his baggage, Merriwell, accompanied by Tad and his dog, Shag, start walking to Snodd's place. Presently the Snodd truck, with Hodge driving, rumbles down the road and kills Tad's dog. Occupying a room next to Merriwell's in the Snodd home is Barney Mulloy, who dislikes Hodge. They become good friends. Merriwell offers to help Mulloy get into one of the academy dormitories by appealing to Professor Scotch, a friend of Merriwell's Uncle Asher. As they leave the house that evening Hodge is talking to Inza well's Uncle Asher. As they leave the house that evening Hodge is talking to Inza Burrage, a friend of Belinda Snodd. Later they meet Tad, who now has another dog.
That night Bart Hodge crashes a party
given by Belinda Snodd. Hodge sings and
the lovely Inza Burrage plays the the lovely Inza Burrage plays the piano. When Merriwell, seated on the porch with Mulloy, sings a comic song, Hodge rushes out, accusing him of insulting Inza. She steps between them, telling Hodge that Mer-riwell is too cheap to deserve his notice.

#### CHAPTER II-Continued

Burrage! The name gave Frank a little shock. Barney had told him, he recalled, that Inza Burrage had a brother in the school.

Hodge let it sink in before he added: "Bascomb's a big shot on the football team. We were in high school together. Walt's sister-I believe you've seen her-fixed it up for him to show me around. He's a swell guy."

He was enjoying himself mightily, for he felt that he was rubbing it in. That was something he always found pleasure in doing.

Mulloy's face was the color of a beet. He bit his tongue to make it behave. "You're lucky to have such

friends here," said Merry.
"Are you telling me!" Bart's smile became a grin. "It puts me in right. They showed me all over the place, and it's some school, take it from me. I've tried a couple others, but I know I'm going to like it here."

"But you didn't like the others?" "They were punk. This one's fine. That's why it's jammed to overflowing." Then Hodge unlimbered his heavy gun. "Burrage says a lot of late applicants were turned down simply because there was no room for them in the dorms and the classes were stretched to the

Barney swallowed uneasily. It didn't sound good for him. He said: "But if it's crowded, me lad, where will they put us?"

"Oh, you?" said Bart maliciously. "I should worry. But I've been to see the dean, and he says he'll slip me in somewhere. You see, he received a few letters about me, signed by persons of importance. They settled it."

The Irish boy shot Merriwell a glance and wondered at his undisturbed aspect. Hodge seemed to be wasting his ammunition, as far as Frank was concerned.

This was something Bart noticed himself, and it irritated him. He decided to let go a full battery broadside.

"The fact is, Irish," he said with sneer, "I guess both you and Merriwell are going to find yourselves on the outside looking in. Of course that's going to make me feel simply terrible."

He was laughing insolently now, and Barney quickly thrust his hands into his pockets to make it a little more difficult for them to fly around carelessly.

Frank's level gaze was fixed steadily on the mocking face of his enemy. He smiled just a trifle, but it was a smile of faint scorn and silent pity. Words could not have cut Hodge so much. He blew up. Snapping his fingers under Merry's nose, he barked:

"You put yourself in Dutch when you insulted Inza Burrage last night, Merriwell. That queered you with her, and I'd knocked your block off if she hadn't stopped me. But she was right; you're too cheap to notice. Still if you want to pick

it up-" "You know I won't pick it up here, Hodge," said Frank. "We're where anybody around the academy can see us, and Mulloy is with me. You'd like to have me lose my head and make a pass at you, for then you could claim I attacked you-with Barney backing me up. Two to one against you. Not so good for me."

"Aw, you'd crawl anywhere. You're a big four-flusher, Merriwell. You make a big bluff when you feel sure you won't be called." Bart got control of himself, shrugged his square shoulders, and glanced quickly at his wrist watch

as if he had just thought of some-"I've been wasting time on you two punks," he said, "when I've

tice that neither of you got an invitation to a little picnic Miss Burrage is throwing in Snodd's grove today," was his parting shot.

They watched him leave the highway and go hurrying off toward a distant grove on John Snodd's land. Mulloy heaved a sigh and took his hands out of his pockets. They were still clenched, and he was

white around the gills. "If you hadn't warned me, Frankie," he confessed, "I'd never been able to keep myself from wringing that bird's neck."

Frank's smile was thin. "Don't think," he replied, "that I didn't have some nervous impulses of my own. That stuff was hard to take without getting off balance and making a miscue."

They went back toward Snodd's farm house, talking it over. What Hodge had said about the crowded condition of the school had reawakened Mulloy's fears in full force. He was sure, also, that the vindictive fellow would do anything he could to prevent both Frank and himself from getting into the acad-

"But what can he do, Barney?"

"He can lie like a trooper." "But I don't believe troopers always get away with it. Hodge won't either. Don't forget we've got Professor Scotch doing his bit for us.



"You Know I Won't Pick It Up Here, Hodge," Said Frank.

I'm expecting him to do a swell job, too. It'll be our turn to laugh

The sound of running feet caused them to look up. Tad Jones was coming down the road as fast as he could travel on his short legs. and he seemed to be ready to burst with excitement. When he reached them he was panting so hard that

he could hardly speak. "My dog!" he gasped. "My new

dog!" "What's the matter?" Frank asked. "What's happened to him,

"Oh, he-he's run away!" "Well," said Barney, "if he stayed

away it's no great loss you'll suffer, my lad." "But he's sick. He was just aw-

ful sick this mornin'-sicker'n he was last night. His eyes was all red 'nd he was growlin' so hard 'nd lookin' so funny that I got scairt of him. So I let him outdoors 'nd he run away. Now I'm tryin' to find him. You ain't seen him, have you, Frank?"

"No. Tad. But why are you looking for him over here?" "Why, I met a man that told me he saw him comin' this way on this very road. I just gotter find

him before anything happens." "Saints preserve us!" gulped Barney. "I'm going to shut myself up

in Snodd's cellar." "This is serious, Barney," said Frank. "The man who gave Tad that dog should have known better. I

don't see why he did it." "But I'll tell you," said Tad Jones quickly. "I'll tell you 'bout that, Frank. He done it 'cause I was all busted up over my old Shag that that feller Hodge killed. He's a neighbor to us, Silas Gleason is. He helped me bury my poor old Shag

out back of our house, 'nd I was cryin' 'nd couldn't help it, I felt so The distressed boy choked a little, and went on: "He said maybe Hodge didn't mean to run over Shag with Mr. Snodd's truck, but I said he done it on purpose. 'Nd then I told him how Hodge kicked Shag at the railroad deepoe 'nd give me a slap for hollerin' at him for that,. 'nd that made Mr. Gleason mad as

a hornet." you a hyena to comfort ye. It was a thoughtful kindness!"

"But Tige ain't no hyeney!" cried Tad. "He was always comin' over to my house to play with me 'nd got a heavy date and am late already." He half turned away and then swung back again. "You'll nonor growled once. 'Nd he liked it glassful at a meal.

better there than he did round his | after the other, like frightened deer. own home, so that Mr. Gleason used to have to come 'nd take him away. 'Nd so when I was feelin' so bad over losin' Shag Mr. Gleason up and said I could have Tige to take his place."

"Without mentioning the expense of feeding him, maybe," Barney murmured under his breath.

"Didn't you tell us last night that Gleason said there was something wrong with that dog, Tad?" asked "Why, he said Tige wasn't feel-

in' very well, Frank. He said he'd prob'ly ett somethin' he shouldn't of ett, but he was sure he'd be all right in a day or two. That's all's the matter with him, Frank. I know "Well, I hope you're right."

"Oh, I be. But the way he's actin', other folks wouldn't understand it 'nd they might do somethin' to him. That's why I gotter hunt him up quick as I can. I been wastin' time. Gotter rush."

swiftly. "Wait a minute, Tad," called Merry as the anxious boy was startoff and his sleeves were rolled up, ing away. as if he had been working. He

"Can't stop no longer," Tad flung over his shoulder.

He went scudding down the road, with Frank and Barney gazing after him doubtfully. "I still think Gleason had no right

to give a dog like that to that kid," said Merriwell. "He was cuckoo," said Mulloy.

'What'll we do about it?" "The authorities ought to be noti-"Now you've said it."

"The quickest way is to telephone. Let's find Mr. Snodd." They saw the farmer enter the

house by the kitchen door as they turned into the yard. The telephone was located in the kitchen, and they went round that way. The door was standing open. The telephone bell rang sharply before they reached the steps, and Snodd answered it.

"What'd you say?" they heard him ask. "The wire's buzzing so I didn't catch it. Say it again." Then, after a moment's pause, he cried: "Jerusalem crickets! A mad dog running loose? Which way did you say he went?" A fear that had been lurking like

a black panther in the back of Frank's mind leaped forward now. He gripped Mulloy's wrist.

"It's Tad's dog, Barney!" he said. "You didn't have to tell me that,"

They went into the house. Mrs. Snodd, flushed from cooking over a hot stove, stood in the middle of the floor and stared, wide eyed, at her husband's back as he listened at the telephone. Like her daughter she was as plump as a dumpling. A carving knife she had just picked up began to tremble

in her hand. Snodd was excited. "What's that?" he barked into the mouthpiece. "The critter was making for Birch grove. My soul and body! My daughter's over there with some other girls, having a picnic." He his face. slammed the receiver on the hook and turned a white face toward

"Where's my gun, Mariah?" he shouted.

She dropped the carving knife clattering on the floor, and wrung her hands. "I don't know, John. It must be in the closet where you always keep it. Oh, them poor girls!"

Merriwell snatched up the knife. "Come on, Mulloy," he said. "It's our move.'

Barney was at his heels as he shot out through the door. "It's a short cut we can make across the

fields, Frank," he cried. They cleared the top rail of the Now it jumped. fence at the side of the yard, one

# Giant Bats With Wingspread of Yard Are Not Vampires, Naturalist Asserts

When some giant bats with a wing- | spread of a yard arrived from Trinidad at the London zoo some London papers hailed them as "vampires," and with the aid of more or less trustworthy treatises expatiated on their sanguinary habits.

Subsequently in the Observer, Edward G. Boulenger, director of the aquarium and an all-round naturalist, rebuked them by inference in this way: These bats, which superficially re-

semble the Indian fruit bat or flying fox, have teeth as large as cats' and a wingspread of nearly a yard. Although savage carnivores feeding chiefly upon birds, they are not true blood-sucking vampires. The true vampire, specimens of

which were not long ago on exhibition in the London zoo, are inhabi-"And so, said Mulloy, "he gave | tants of Brazil and Central America. The vampire is no longer than a rat and will feed upon any animal available, attacking its victims by means of two needle-shaped canines. It taps so gently as to arouse

The giant false vampire is comparatively harmless in spite of its repulsive appearance. The naturalist Bates when describing this animal wrote:

Nothing in animal physiognomy can be more hideous than the countenance of this creature when viewed from the front-the large leathery ears standing out from the sides and top of the head, the erect spear-shaped appendage on the tip of the snout, the grin and the glistening black eye all combining to make up a figure that reminds one of some mocking imp of fable.

Haircuts in the Gutter Hair-cutting and shaving are much the same the world over. It is only the methods that differ. In China, for instance, the customer does not have to wait in a room looking at last year's magazines before his turn comes. Here the bar-ber carries his trade in the street, When he sees a customer the barber follows him until he finds a suitable spot on the pavement or in the street, and sets his stool up

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#### Stories Briefly Told

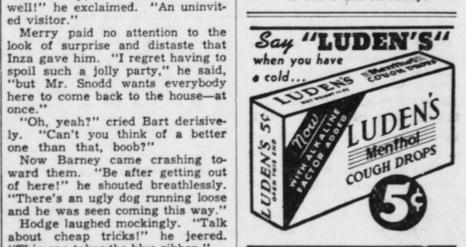
Playwright (explaining new script)-Now for the end of the second act I've got a really swell idea. The hero has been captured by bandits . . . they are trying to hang him on a tree-trunk, but nobody can find a rope. At this stage the orchestra begins to play "The Lost Chord.'

Floorwalker (at 1 a. m. to burglar in his house)-Silverware? Yes, sir. Step this way.

Mrs. Murphy (concluding an argument)-Every time I look at you, Mrs. Patrick, I feel I'm doing the government out of the entertainment tax.

#### "Miser" Paine

J. H. Paine was a composer and critic who was a friend of Frank Chickering's. It was generally supposed that Paine was poor. His name is associated with an experience which befell his benefactor, Chickering. To the latter Paine intrusted a package wrapped in a bandana handkerchief. Assuming that the content was manuscripts, Chickering placed the package in a safe. Seventeen years later the "impoverished" friend died. In the presence of Paine's legal representatives, the package was opened. It contained over \$400,000 worth of bonds and currency.



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