

Under False Colors

By W. W. HINES
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Ogden could not recollect having lost any uncles lately, and it was a distinct surprise to be greeted as a nephew by the stern featured old man in the puffing automobile.

"Come here, you young rascal!" the old man almost shouted as the automobile drew up to the sidewalk. Without knowing why, Ogden went. Perhaps it was curiosity, perhaps it was because he did not happen to think of anything else to do.

"Get in here at once," said the old man. "Why?" asked Ogden. "Why?" repeated the old man. "Because I tell you to do so. Here I have been looking for you for the past two weeks and now you want to run away from me?"

"So you are my uncle?" said Ogden quizzically. Then the spirit of adventure which had been his guiding star all his life, seized possession of him, and he stepped into the vehicle, which started, puffing, down the avenue toward Washington square.

On the way down he puzzled with himself as to the part which he was acting, or rather being forced to act. As nearly as he could gather from the conversation of the old man, his name had not been introduced in the conversation. Rodney seemed to have come from the west for a visit and to have left the house without warning, after a more or less violent quarrel with his uncle.

"What did you want to run away from, you young rascal?" the girl is certainly as pretty a girl as you will find in the whole country, sir. It was only to be expected that she should show some coquetry about accepting you, but I am surprised that you, as a nephew of mine should be such a fool as to run away from a pretty girl. Why did you do it, sir?"

"I should have understood it, my boy. The sentiment does credit to your blood and your breeding, sir. But my heart is set on this notion. Just tell the girl you won't take 'No' for an answer and she will come around in time. Eh, sir, when I was your age I would have been delighted with the coquetries she has used on you."

By this time the automobile had come to a stop in front of one of the old houses along the north side of the square, and the two passengers alighted. Entering the house, the old man, with Rodney in tow, made the drawing-room where they could hear some one playing on the piano. The room was rather dark, but as they entered the light was good enough for Rodney to make out the uncommonly pretty girl seated at the piano. She got up hastily as they entered the room and ran to greet the old man. Then she turned to Ogden and said:

"So you have come back, Cousin Rodney? I was under the impression that you had left the city." Feeling rather ashamed of himself for carrying on the deception, but overpowered by the desire for adventure, Ogden sat down and joined in the conversation, fencing carefully for time whenever he was asked a question the answer to which might betray his identity. Whenever he got a chance he stole a glance at the girl. He fancied once or twice that he detected a flicker of amusement upon her face. She was evidently watching him narrowly, and the conviction grew upon him that she suspected he was an impostor. The girl was certainly a beauty, and he could not but notice her. Rodney had been called enough to run away from her society, even if he had found his presence more or less unwelcome.

"Thanks, since that means you are not going to cut me when next we meet." "But you had better leave before uncle comes down from his nap." "And when can I be properly introduced to you?" "Didn't you know Raymond Pearson at Yale?" "Yes, but why?" "He is to be married to a friend of mine next week, and I am to be the maid of honor. Can't you get him to invite you?" "I am in town to be his best man." "What a coincidence! But you must go now." "All right. Then I'll just say a revoir until we are properly introduced." "Yes, an revoir until the rehearsal of the ceremony next Tuesday."

And Ogden was down the steps and into the street, conscious of the fact that he was looking forward to the wedding of his friend Pearson with much more interest than even a best man is supposed to take in such an event. "Why?" asked Ogden. "Why?" repeated the old man. "Because I tell you to do so. Here I have been looking for you for the past two weeks and now you want to run away from me?"

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It was only to be expected that she should show some coquetry about accepting you, but I am surprised that you, as a nephew of mine should be such a fool as to run away from a pretty girl. Why did you do it, sir?" The old gentleman was very irate.

Taking his cue from the fragmentary information furnished him by these remarks, Ogden, resolved to carry through the comedy, straightened himself up and remarked, with his most dignified air: "Because I trust that I am too much of a gentleman to force my attentions in any quarter where they are not wanted." He had read this sentence in some old fashioned book, and thought it might go well with this elderly uncle.

The old fellow looked rather pleased and said: "I should have understood it, my boy. The sentiment does credit to your blood and your breeding, sir. But my heart is set on this notion. Just tell the girl you won't take 'No' for an answer and she will come around in time. Eh, sir, when I was your age I would have been delighted with the coquetries she has used on you."

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He, She— And Charles Augustus

By F. B. WRIGHT
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Charles Augustus had had a most unpleasant day. It had commenced well enough, but had clouded over soon after he had started on his lessons about the dog and the rat and the active cat. Then Higgins had brought Miss Purvis a letter, and with it something had led entered into Charles Augustus' life that he could by no means understand.

You see, Charles Augustus loved his governess greatly. She came next to his father and mother and way above the goat. Charles Augustus had quite decided to marry Miss Purvis when he grew up and had often talked over the details with the young lady herself. The letter, when she read it, made Miss Purvis face go all pink and beat with tears. Then she put the letter away in the bosom of her gown, and Charles Augustus thought that was the end of it. But it was not, for as often as he looked up from his book or slate he saw Miss Purvis reading the letter, and each time he saw tears in her eyes.

What could it be in those scrawly black marks to make people cry? He cried when he was spanked or shut up in a closet or had to do something he did not want to—but this wasn't like that. Charles Augustus could not understand this silent crying. When he asked her to tell him the whole world knew—and usually succeeded. Later, when lessons were over, he saw Miss Purvis, through the window, writing a letter, and she was crying ever that. Plainly there was something in this writing business which was decidedly unpleasant. Charles Augustus decided then and there that he would never write. Then when she had finished she went off to the village and would not let Charles Augustus go with her.

In that half hour of easy time which came when Charles Augustus had shifted from his day things into the simple lengths of his flannel pajamas and, curled down into the big chair with Miss Purvis, toasted his pink toes before the fire preparatory to going to bed, he came once more across this peculiar thing which he could not understand, for Miss Purvis was strangely silent, only answering a listless yes or no to his observations on life and the curious ways of people and the idiosyncrasies of the goat. He did not take much interest even when he was touched upon the many things he would give her when he became a man and they were married—the rings like mamma's and an express wagon and a jar of ginger. Though her arm drew him close when he told her how much he loved her, yet Charles Augustus was not satisfied. He felt as though something invisible were between them.

He put up a hand and turned her face toward him. "You do love me, don't you?" he said. "And you will wait for me until I am big?" She kissed him and told him "Yes." He went to bed with a heavy heart. "But I'm afraid, dear, I'll have to go away. Will you mind?" Charles Augustus minded very much and said so, and the thought kept him awake long after he had got into his bed. Through the door he could see Miss Purvis and the fire. Then he saw her of a sudden bend forward, her face in her hands. This letter was the cause of Miss Purvis' feeling bad. It must be taken away—that was all about it.

The room was quiet; the fire died to a little glow of winking embers; Miss Purvis was asleep. Charles Augustus got up and got the letter. Then he hid it under the mattress and went to sleep with a lighter heart. Now Miss Purvis would be happy again, and she would not go away. The next day Miss Purvis was not happy. True, she did not cry, nor did she read the letter which Charles Augustus had carefully tucked inside his blouse, but yet she was not the Miss Purvis of yesterday, who laughed and sang and romped on the lawn the day before. It was not the mere possession of the letter then. What was it?

"He must not come," "I must leave here," Charles Augustus remembered those words. Some one was coming then; some one who would carry Miss Purvis, the beloved away. Charles Augustus thought of flannel and pyjamas and grew horribly alive to the exigencies of the occasion. His father and mother were away, so he could not do to them for advice. There was only one man in Charles Augustus' confidence, and he was very big and strong and knew everything. Next to the goat, who was manifestly incapable of understanding the circumstances, Charles Augustus adored this man. He lived in a house by himself, a long, long way off beyond the most distant town.

Charles Augustus saw the man that afternoon. He had come to call, but Miss Purvis had excused herself. She had a headache, she said. Now, the man, whose name was Mr. Houghton, was going down the drive with great strides, and so intent on his own affairs that he did not notice Charles Augustus call to him. It took him a long time to catch up with the man. Indeed it did not happen until the latter had turned off into the woods and Charles Augustus' hat had been lost on the road and his legs much scratched with briars. Then Charles Augustus told his story—about the letter and how she had kissed it and yet cried and was going away.

"And she said 'I can't! I can't!' like that," ended Charles Augustus. "He mustn't never know," she said, and he mustn't never come here!" "What wasn't he to know, and who was he, and did Mr. Houghton think it was a giant that was coming to carry off your governess?" asked Charles Augustus. "He mustn't never know," she said, and he mustn't never come here!" "I'm afraid it is a giant," said Mr. Houghton gravely, "and it's lucky I heard of it in time, because I was go-

ing away tomorrow. But now—" "But now?" said Charles Augustus anxiously. "Now I think I'll go right back to the house with you!" "And you won't let her be taken—I mean taken—away?" said Charles Augustus. "No, she isn't going away," the man replied—"at least not very far."

They got out into the road and started back. Charles Augustus' hand in that of his friend, and his small shoes plowing through the dust. And then, at a turn in the road, they came suddenly on Miss Purvis, very white and scared looking and carrying Charles Augustus' hat. "Charlie," she cried, "I thought you were lost!" Charles Augustus plunged toward her. "I told him," he cried triumphantly. "I told him all about the letter and how you cried because the goat was going to carry you off, and he says the goat hasn't and that you are going to live here happily ever after, amen, like people do in fairy stories. And you are, ain't you?"

Miss Purvis looked at the man a second and then gave him a remarkable resemblance to each other. The cocoon cradle proper and its various modifications as found among the different tribes of North American Indians are constructed from the skins of animals. And right here we may pause and trace the origin of another famous nursery rhyme to the Indian cocoon cradle, for did not the father of Baby Bunting go a-hunting to get a little rabbit's skin to wrap that mythical baby in? All full blood Kiowa babies are born into the ph-lo-yo-ye, or rabbit circle, and are taught to dance in the mysterious circle of rabbits as soon as they learn to toddle, belonging to the rabbit order of the Kiowa society.

Hence a rabbit skin would be a very appropriate wrapping for a Kiowa Baby Bunting, though neither large enough nor strong enough for his cradle. The deer skin of the forest, quarry or the redskinned hunter, gives of this beautiful covering to make the cradle that is to swing from the tree top, literally trees tops cut from the cotton-woods and elms that fringe the clear little streams rippling through the Kiowa reservation and piled high on a framework of poles to serve as a "summer parlor" in front of his father's tepee.

The crude deer hide is carefully dressed by a tedious and secret process known only to these Indians, and when finished is as soft and pliant as the most expensive chamois skin. Then loving fingers skillfully embroider with quilts beautiful beadwork designs upon the delicately tinted deerskin. Kiowa cradles are more ornamental than those of other tribes, and Kiowa squaws excel in that marvelous Indian beadwork now the popular fad of their paleface sisters. Some of this beadwork embroidery is not only very beautiful, but very elaborate. The Sioux squaws, who alone rival their Kiowa sisters, ornament the cradles of their little ones with bands of deerskin, upon which are wrought in colored beads gorgeous patterns of men, horses, birds, fish and flowers.

Instead of a wooden framework they substitute a basket work frame of reeds and sometimes they use seal and grasses instead of beads. The Cheyenne, Apache and Comanche Indians all use cocoon cradles patterned after the Kiowa cradles, but theirs are not ornamented as elaborately as those of the Kiowas. In truth, the grim and warlike Comanche of the plains wastes very little time in decorating the receptacle of his offspring. A stout piece of deerskin, fastened to an equally stout wooden frame and laced up securely with rawhide thongs, suffices his simple need.

The origin of the cocoon cradle itself, like that of the redskins, seems wrapped in mystery, though we might with reason trace this primitive cradle back to the Lapps of northern Europe, whose babies sleep in little hollowed out affairs swung down from the lower limbs of trees. They are lined with moss and laced up, and in shape are exactly like the primitive Indian cocoon cradle from which the modern cocoon cradle, beautified and improved, has been evolved.

After the beadwork embroidery is completed the deerskin pouch or bag is fastened securely upon a strong board whose two upright handles, projecting above the headpiece or hood, are strengthened by a crosspiece at the back. These handles are very convenient when the mother is busy about her many tasks; if it be warm weather, baby is swung from the top of the brush arbor, his round, brown face peering smilingly from out his trappings of angrily beaded deerskin, his bright little eyes blinking at the sunbeams shining through the leafy roof, or the flames of the nightly campfire leaping up to mingle with the moonlight. When "trading" at the agency stores, the squaw props the cradle, "baby and all," against the counter and goes calmly about the important business of laying in a supply for her family in their tepee far out on the reservation.

Mother love fills the heart of a poor squaw as completely as it does that of her more fortunate paleface sister. Her clumsy fingers fashion playthings of shells, old shaped bones, carved wooden beads, bright pieces of tin, china or glass, which she hangs about the hood of the cocoon cradle in reach of the chubby brown fists. Baby soon learns to rattle these primitive playthings gleefully.

Strange as it may appear, the redskinned Baby Buntings seem to thrive in their cramped quarters, but they enjoy as a famous treat a change to the blankets upon their mothers' backs, when the toiling squaws are forced to go down to the scant timber stretches along the creek to bring up firewood and water for the camp—Los Angeles Times.

THE COCOON CRADLE

MODE OF WRAPPING UP THE LITTLE REDSKIN PAPOOSE.

Head Bedecked Buckskin Bag In Which the Indian Baby Bunting Grows and Thrives—Origin of This Queer Cramped Cradle.

Fancy a tiny copper colored papoose buckled up snugly in a queer buckskin bag that resembles nothing in nature so much as the cozy cocoon cradle of a baby butterfly and then draw upon your imagination still further, picturing this odd receptacle swinging from the leafy canopy of an Indian wickiup or brush arbor, and you have before you an Indian baby and his wonderful cradle.

Gorgeous yellow butterflies and brown Kiowa babies are seldom linked together in song or story, yet in real life their wrappings while in the chrysalis state bear a remarkable resemblance to each other. The cocoon cradle proper and its various modifications as found among the different tribes of North American Indians are constructed from the skins of animals. And right here we may pause and trace the origin of another famous nursery rhyme to the Indian cocoon cradle, for did not the father of Baby Bunting go a-hunting to get a little rabbit's skin to wrap that mythical baby in? All full blood Kiowa babies are born into the ph-lo-yo-ye, or rabbit circle, and are taught to dance in the mysterious circle of rabbits as soon as they learn to toddle, belonging to the rabbit order of the Kiowa society.

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Heine's Sense of Humor. Heine's sense of humor did not leave him until the last. A few days before his death Hector Berlioz called on him just as a tiresome German professor was leaving after worrying him with his uninteresting conversation. "I am afraid you will find me very stupid, my dear fellow," he said. "The fact is I have just been exchanging thoughts with Dr. —"

Made a Lock For the Key. An old and curious key and lock are attached to the door of Temple church in Fleet street, London. The key weighs seven pounds, is eighteen inches long, and, unlike other keys, it is not made for the lock. On the contrary, the lock was made for it. Both key and lock have been in use since the crusades, the church itself having been built by the Knights Templars in 1485—London Standard.

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