

# The Man Without A Country

Edward Everett Hale

SECOND INSTALLMENT.

If I had only preserved the whole of this paper, there would be no break in the beginning of my sketch of this story. For Captain Shaw, if it was he, handed it to his successor in the charge, and he to his.

The rule adopted on board the ships on which I have met "The Man without a Country" was, I think, transmitted from the beginning. No mess liked to have him permanently, because his presence cut off all talk of home or of the prospect of return, of politics or letters, of peace or of war—of more than half the talk men like to have at sea. But it was always thought too hard that he should never meet the rest of us, except to touch hats, and we finally sank into one system. He was not permitted to talk with the men unless an officer was with. With officers he had unrestrained intercourse, as far as they and he chose. But he grew shy, though he had favorites: I was one. Then the captain always asked him to dinner on Monday. Every mess in succession took up the invitation in its turn. According to the size of the ship, you had him at your mess more or less often at dinner. His breakfast he ate in his own stateroom, he always had a stateroom, which was where a sentinel, or somebody on the watch, could see the door. And whatever else he ate or drank he ate or drank alone. Sometimes, when the marines or sailors had any special jollification, they were permitted to invite "Plain-Buttons," as they called him. The Nolan was sent with some officer, and the men were forbidden to speak of home while he was there. They called him "Plain-Buttons," because, while he always chose to wear a regulation army uniform, he was not permitted to wear the army button, for the reason that it bore either the initials or the insignia of the country he had disowned.

I remember, soon after I joined the navy, I was on shore with some of the older officers from our ship and from the Brandywine, which we had met at Alexandria. We had leave to make a party and go up to Cairo and the Pyramids. As we jogged along some of the gentlemen fell to talking about Nolan, and someone told the system which was adopted from the first about his books and other reading. As he was almost never permitted to go on shore, even though the vessel lay in port for months, his time, at the best, hung heavy; and everybody was permitted to lend him books, if they were not published in America and made no allusion to it. These were common enough in the old days, when people in the other hemisphere talked of the United States as little as we do of Paraguay. He had almost all the foreign papers that came into the ship, sooner or later; only somebody must go over them first, and cut out any advertisement or stray paragraph that alluded to America. Right in the midst of one of Napoleon's battles, or one of Canning's speeches, poor Nolan would find a great hole, because on the back of the page of that paper there had been an advertisement of a pocket for New York, or a scrap from the president's message. I say this was the first time I ever heard of this plan, which afterwards I had enough, and more than enough, to do with. I remember it, because poor Phillips, who was of the party, as soon as the allusion to reading was made, told a story of something which happened at the Cape of Good Hope on Nolan's first voyage; and it is the only thing I ever knew of that voyage. They had touched at the Cape, and had done the civil thing with the English admiral and the fleet, and then, leaving for a long cruise up the Indian ocean, Phillips had borrowed a lot, in those days, as indeed in these, was quite a windfall. Among them, as the Devil would order, was the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," which they had all of them heard of, but which most of them had never seen. I think it could not have been published long. Well, nobody thought there could be any risk of anything national in this, though Phillips swore old Shaw had cut out the "Tempest" from Shakespeare before he let Nolan have it, because he said, "The Bermudas ought to be ours and, by Jove, should be one day." So Nolan was permitted to join the circle one afternoon when a lot of them sat on deck smoking and reading aloud. People do not do such things so often now, but when I was young we got rid of a great deal of time so. Well, so it happened that in his turn Nolan took the book and read to the others; and he read very well, as I know. Nobody in the circle knew a line of the poem, only it was all magic and border chivalry, and was ten thousand years ago. Poor Nolan read steadily through the fifth canto, stopped a minute and drank something, and then began, without a thought of what was coming—

There the man, with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said—  
It seems impossible to us that anybody ever heard this for the first time; but all these fellows did then, and poor Nolan himself went on, still unconsciously or mechanically—  
This is my own, my native land!  
Then they all saw something was to pay; but he expected to get through, I suppose, turned a little pale, but plunged on—  
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,  
As home his footsteps he hath turned  
From wandering on a foreign strand?  
If such there breathe, go, mark him well.  
By this time the men were all beside themselves, wishing there was any

way to make him turn over two pages; but he had not quite presence of mind for that; he gaged a little, colored crimson, and staggered on:

For him no minstrel raptures swell;  
High though his titles, proud his name,  
Boundless his wealth as wish can claim,  
Despite these titles, power and pelf,  
The wretch, concentered all in self,—  
And here the poor fellow choked, could not go on, but started up, swung the book into the sea, vanished into his stateroom, "and by Jove," said Phillips, "we did not see him for two months again. And I had to make up some beggarly story to that English surgeon who I did not return his Walter Scott to him."

That story shows about the time when Nolan's braggadocho must have broken down. At first, they said, he took a very high tone, considered his imprisonment a mere farce, affected to enjoy the voyage, and all that; but Phillips said that after he came out of his stateroom he never was the same man again. He never read aloud again, unless it was the Bible or Shakespeare, or something else he was sure of. But it was not that merely. He never entered in with the other young men exactly as a companion again. He was always shy afterward, when I knew him, very seldom spoke, unless he was spoken to, except to a very few friends. He lighted up occasionally, I remember late in his life hearing him fairly eloquent on something which had been suggested to him by one of Flecher's sermons, but generally he had the nervous, tired look of a heart-wounded man.

When Captain Shaw was coming home—if, as I say, it was Shaw—rather to the surprise of everybody they made one of the Windward Islands, and lay off and on for nearly a week. The boys said the officers were sick of salt junk, and meant to have turtle soup before they came home. But after several days the Warren came to the same rendezvous; they exchanged signals; she sent to Phillips and these home-bound men letters and parcels, and told them she was outward bound, perhaps to the Mediterranean, and took poor Nolan and his traps on the boat back to try his second cruise. He looked very blank when he was told to get ready to join her. He had known enough of the signs of the sky to know that till that moment he was going "home." But this was a distinct evidence of something he had not thought of, perhaps, that there was no going home for him, even to a prison. And this was the first of some twenty such transfers, which brought him sooner or later into half our best vessels, but which kept him all his life at least some hundred miles from the country he had hoped he might never hear of again.

It may have been on that second cruise—it was once when he was up the Mediterranean—that Mrs. Graff, the celebrated Southern beauty of those days, danced with him. They had been lying a long time in the Bay of Naples, and the officers were very intimate in the English fleet, and there had been great festivities, and our men thought they must give a great ball on board the ship. How they ever did it on board the Warren I am sure I do not know. Perhaps it was not the Warren, or perhaps ladies did not take up so much room as they do now. They wanted to use Nolan's stateroom for something, and they hated to do it without asking him to the ball; so the captain said they might ask him, if they would be responsible that he did not talk with the wrong people, "who would give him intelligence." So the dance went on, the finest party that had ever been known, I dare say; for I never heard



Turned a Little Pale but Plunged On.

of a man-of-war ball that was not. For ladies they had the family of the American consul, one or two travelers who had adventured so far, and a nice bevy of English girls and matrons, perhaps Lady Hamilton herself.

Well, different officers relieved each other in standing and talking with Nolan in a friendly way, so as to be sure that nobody else spoke to him. The dancing went on with spirit, and after a while even the fellows who took this honorary guard of Nolan ceased to fear any contrepases. Only when some English lady—Lady Hamilton, as I said, perhaps, called for a set of "American dancers," an odd thing happened. Everybody then danced contrepases. The black band, nothing loath, conferred as to what "American

dances" were, and started off with "Virginia Reel," which they followed with "Money-Musk," which, in its turn in those days, should have been followed by "The Old Thirteen." But just as Dick, the leader, tapped for his fiddlers to begin, and bent forward, about to say, in true negro state, "The Old Thirteen, gentlemen and ladies!" as he had said, "Virginia Reel, if you please!" "Money-Musk, if you please!" the captain's boy tapped him on the shoulder, whispered to him, and he did not announce the name of the dance; he merely bowed, began on the air, and they all fell to, the officers teaching the English girls the figure, but not telling them why it had no name.

But that is not the story I started to tell. As the dancing went on, Nolan and our fellows all got at ease, as I said, so much so that it seemed quite natural for him to bow to that splendid Mrs. Graff, and say:

"I hope you have not forgotten me, Miss Rutledge. Shall I have the honor of dancing?"

He did it so quickly that Shubrick, who was by him, could not hinder him. She laughed and said:

"I am not Miss Rutledge any longer, Mr. Nolan; but I will dance all the same," just nodded to Shubrick, as if to say he must leave Mr. Nolan to her, and led him off to the place where the dance was forming.

Nolan thought he had got his chance. He had known her at Philadelphia, and at other places had met her, and this was a godsend. You could not talk in contradictions, as you do in cotillions, or even in the pauses of waltzing; but there were chances for tongue and sword, as well as for eyes and blishes. He began with her travels, and Europe, and Vestuvius, and



There Appeared Nolan in His Shirt Sleeves.

the French; and then, when they worked down, and had that long talking time at the bottom of the set, he said boldly, a little pale, she said, as she told me the story, years after:

"And what do you hear from home, Mrs. Graff?"

And that splendid creature looked through him. I thought he must have looked "Home!" "Home!" Mr. Nolan!!! I would give you the man who never wanted to hear of home again!" and she walked directly up the deck to her husband, and left poor Nolan alone, as he always was.—He did not dance again.

I cannot give any history of him in order; nobody can now; and, indeed, I am not trying to. These are the traditions, which I sort out, as I believe them, from the myths which have been told about this man for forty years. The fellows used to say he was the "Iron Mask" and poor George Pons went to his grave in the belief that this was the author of "Julius," who was being punished for his celebrated libel on Thomas Jefferson. Pons was not very strong in the historical line. A happier story than either of these I have told is of the war. That came along soon after. I have heard this affair told in three or four ways, and, indeed, it may have happened more than once. But which ship it was on I cannot tell. However, in one of the great frigates duels with the English, in which the navy was really baptized, it happened that a round shot from the enemy entered one of our ports square, and took right down the officer of the gun himself, and almost every man of the gun's crew. Now you may say what you choose about courage, but that is not a nice thing to see. But as the men who were not killed picked themselves up, and the surgeon's people were cutting the ring of the bodies, there appeared Nolan, in his shirt sleeves, with the rammer in his hand, and just as if he had been the officer, told them off with authority, who should go to the cockpit with the wounded men, who should stay with him, perfectly cheery, and with that way which makes men feel sure all is right and is going to be right. And he finished loading the gun with his own hands, aimed it, and bade the men fire. And there he stayed, captain of that gun, keeping those fellows in spirits, till the enemy struck, sitting on the carriage while the gun was cooling, though he was exposed all the time, showing them easier ways to handle heavy shot, making the raw hands laugh at their own blunders, and when the gun cooled again, getting it loaded and fired twice as often as any other gun on the ship. The captain walked forward, by way of encouraging the men, and Nolan touched his hat and said:

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Which Was Which?  
Jimmy's mother had told him to stay near the window and watch for the bride and groom and come and tell her when he saw them coming. After waiting for some time his patience was rewarded, but he forgot to run and tell his mother. When they were quite near he suddenly remembered and called out lustily; "Mamma, here comes the bride and the groom."—Christian Herald.

A pneumatic hammer for tamping paving stones has been invented.

## A MILLION UNDER CONSCRIPT LAW

Public Safety Committee Planning Best Use of \$2,000,000 War Fund

### GETTING LABOR AND TEAMS

Teachers in Public, Parochial and Private Schools Have Begun to Enroll for Farm Work—Volunteer to Secure Students.

—Harrisburg. Under the terms of the conscription law as agreed upon by the joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, Pennsylvania, provided every man between the ages of 21 and 30 years is physically and mentally fit for service, could place an army of 1,036,948 in the field. These figures were submitted to the State Committee on Public Safety by the Department of Statistics at Harrisburg and are based on the census of 1910.

Providing half of these men, through physical defects or through provisions in the selective conscription act, are excused from service, there would still remain a formidable host of more than a half-million soldiers to bear the State's burden in defending national honor and national rights. What part the Public Safety Committee will play in conscripting the forces of the Commonwealth has not yet been determined. It is understood, however, that this phase of the program is up for consideration at Harrisburg and that a decision on enforcing conscription will be made within a few days.

In the meantime the committee is planning the best use of the \$2,000,000 appropriated by the Legislature to be used in waging a two-year campaign on the agricultural, industrial and military needs of the State. With reference to this, George Wharton Pepper, chairman of the Public Safety Committee, made the following statement:

The Committee of Public Safety has been waiting for some time for the passage of the bill introduced into the Legislature at its request. Its approval by the Governor now places at the disposal of the committee, through the Commission named in the act, the sum of \$2,000,000 for use in carrying on a two-year campaign for the agricultural, industrial and military well-being of the Commonwealth. The plans which the committee has been formulating in anticipation of the appropriation will make a large demand upon the activities of the local committees throughout the State.

The Agricultural Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce took up the task of co-operating with the State in the effort being put forth to provide teams and labor for farmers. Teachers in public, parochial and private schools began to enroll for farm work and volunteered their aid in marshaling students for the agricultural army.

### Slogan; No Empty Cans.

"No empty tin cans this year" is the slogan urged upon every housewife by the agricultural school at the Pennsylvania State College. A State-wide campaign to encourage preservation of garden products, both by canning and drying, has been launched by the college authorities through the department of home economics. Meetings will be held in scores of communities until late in the summer. Demonstrations and lectures by the college experts will be given free to the women of Pennsylvania. A special series of lessons in preserving has been prepared for instruction by correspondence.

The first gun of the canning campaign was fired, with the following announcement:

The slogan in every home this year should be "no empty cans." This will be especially necessary if there should be a shortage of tin and glass cans, as has been predicted. Every homemaker should at this time take inventory of her supply of jars. She should know how many jars she has available and secure now a sufficient supply of rubbers. Odd sizes of jars and wide-mouth bottles may be used. Furthermore, every homemaker should estimate at once the number of jars she will use for fruit and for vegetables, and determine what fruits and vegetables shall be canned or dried. She should remember to plan for the foods that have the proper food value and which meet the body needs in food requirements.

A minimum amount of pickles should be preserved and crocks or similar vessels should be utilized for the purpose. The food value of pickles is not high, and they are rather indigestible. Only enough should be "put up" to provide for a little variety and an occasional relish.

### Bills Approved.

The Governor approved and signed the following bills:

The Eye Senate bill authorizing counties, townships or boroughs to contribute part of the purchase price for acquisition by the State of a toll road or turnpike, and permitting a county to pay for condemnation of any toll road on a State highway.

Making a deficiency appropriation of \$12,000 to Fairview institution.

Authorizing municipalities and school districts to issue bonds to protect material and labor on public building construction contracts.

Establishing a code for construction and maintenance of booths for moving picture machines.

Amending Philadelphia Municipal Court law provisions for appeals "under law now existing or which may hereafter be adopted."

Amending borough code so as to provide for erection of new boroughs from parts of consolidated boroughs.

Allowing cities to contribute annually for support of National Guard batteries and regimental sanitary troops.

Validating tax liens under act of 1910 and supplements.

## PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

To relieve the great scarcity of labor, one big industrial plant in Pottstown brings men in by automobile every morning from a wide extent of rural territory, and takes them home in the evening.

Adjutant General Stewart announced the appointment of Wilbur F. Letzell, Scottsdale, as first lieutenant of the Machine Gun Troop of the First Cavalry. Frank E. Powers was named as first lieutenant and Peter J. Pugh as second lieutenant of Company C, Engineers, Pottsville.

Kept home from school to aid her mother, who was recovering from an operation, Dorothy Gibb, aged 9, was drowned at Carlisle when she attempted to recover her ball from a cistern and broke through the covering. The mother's condition is critical.

In a letter received at Harrisburg, from John A. McSparran, master of the Pennsylvania Grange, an appeal is made to the Granges in the State to grow more corn, buckwheat and other cereals as an aid to the impending food shortage.

Charles Himes, of Lancaster, 61, brooding over the fact that he could not buy a property for his son, blew the top of his head off with a gun.

The supply of seedling trees for free distribution from State nurseries has been exhausted.

New Cumberland dog owners are up in arms following the poisoning of a score of valuable pets.

Miners in the Hazleton region will establish more co-operative stores to help them live on what they earn.

Through Columbia county's community club's five miles of beans will be planted in Columbia county on garden day.

One of the principal features of the meeting of Carlisle Presbytery at Camp Hill was the raising of a maintenance fund of \$2,000 for the upkeep of the Rocky Springs Presbyterian Church.

A movement has been started to organize a band at Sellersville.

The increases in salary granted by the Doylestown School Board to teachers add \$350.10 to the annual salary roll.

The Women's Civic Club, of North Wales, will plant plants and vegetable seeds to residents of that community at wholesale prices.

Lower Merion Y. M. C. A. boys have reorganized the "Boy's Paper Salvage Company" and have added a patent bailer to their assets.

Students of Jenkintown High School have advised Supervising Principal LeRoy King of their willingness to work on farms during the summer months.

J. B. Stevenson, special officer of the Lehigh Valley Transit Company, at Lansdale, has been granted a tract of five acres by the Company, and will put in potatoes.

The Windsor Water Company, of Hamburg, has received 13,000 white pine saplings, to be planted on its large reservoir reservation.

Carlisle voters will be asked to sanction a \$150,000 loan for sewers. Free seed potatoes have been delivered to 200 homes in Altoona for their gardens.

The Coleraine branch of the United Mine Workers has ordered a carload of flour to sell it at cost to 300 members.

The Luzerne County Industrial School for Boys, at Kistlyn, has contributed nine recruits to the army and navy.

Anthracite operators at Hazleton have notified miners that men whose payday sprints affect production will be recommended as "slackers" for army service.

A class of 15 nurses soon to graduate was received into the State Hospital Alumni Association at Fountain Springs to make them immediately available for enlistment in the Red Cross Society.

A \$48,000 post office building is to be erected at State College.

Dickinson Seniors, Carlisle, have dropped class day, as 30 members have joined training camps.

Wormleysburg cannot find men to hold office being short a constable, councilman and member of the Health Board.

Checks for \$25 each have been sent to Fane, Henderson and Brooklyn fire companies, Lewisport, by the citizens of Redville, for recent services, and a \$60 check to R. U. Jacobs, of California.

Hazleton's Y. M. C. A. has entered upon a campaign to last three weeks, to teach 200 boys how to swim, without charge.

Each of the four playgrounds associations in Lebanon will receive \$150 a season from the Lebanon School district toward the payment of salaries of directors of the grounds.

The Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, in resolutions adopted at Harrisburg calls upon the laboring men of the State to stand loyally by the Government during the war. President Maurer reported that 134 locals had affiliated with the Federation during the past year.

The war has deprived Conyngham of its Burgess, Oscar Schaeffer, the chief executive, having enlisted in the heavy artillery.

Freight handlers of the Lehigh Valley Railroad have been given an advance of from 17 1/2 cents an hour to 20 cents for an 11-hour day.

The presiding officers of the Senate and House at Harrisburg affixed their signatures to the \$2,000,000 war emergency fund and sent it to the Governor for his action.

Hazleton merchants have decided to hold a big community outing at Hazle Park during the summer and donate the receipts to the Red Cross.

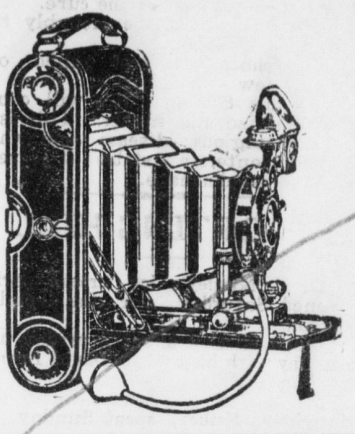
The employees of Chapman slate quarries have raised on the hill adjoining the quarries a flag 10 by 15 feet, bought by their contributions. An address was made by Rev. C. H. Eger, pastor of the Methodist Church of the village.

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