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MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR

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True Success Story

By F. H. MacArthur

A poem is accepted! Suddenly a New Vista unfolds to Will Carleton, two years out of college.

The poem, which first appeared in the Toledo Blade, made its author famous overnight. It was titled "Betsy and I Are Out". That's how Bill Carleton, Michigan's favorite son, stepped across the threshold of the old farm home into the green fields of literature. Thus began the career of a young man who later became a notable figure as a song-writer, lecturer and journalist.

Born on a farm two miles east of the village of Hudson, Lenawee County, Michigan, he was christened "William McKendree Carleton". His parents, John and Celestia Carleton were pioneer settlers who came to the district later years before the birth of their son in 1846.

The boy passed his earliest years amid plain, quiet surroundings. He was frail, sensitive and dreamy, a born humorist who had the ability to touch the heart-strings of all who came under his influence.

In later years, he liked to tell an anecdote of himself which sheds some light on his boyhood days on the farm.

Carleton had gone to the fair held in a neighboring town to hear Cassius M. Clay, a Kentuckian, make a speech, but seeing so many people milling about he could see nothing of the eloquent southerner, so he elbowed his way through the crowd and finally came to a tree which he climbed. Among its branches he had a good view of all that went on.

The great southern orator, to illustrate the ignorance of his political opponents, cried out with an emphatic gesture, "They don't know any more about it than that boy in yonder tree." A thousand eyes were at once focused upon the blushing youth.

"The sensation", said Carleton, "was very much as if somebody had poured cold water down my neck. I tried to hide among the branches, but that didn't work, so I descended from the tree and made myself scarce. They laughed at me when I got home and said I should have stayed and fought it out."

Like Burns, Carleton was able to picture the homeliest aspects of life and treat them in such a way that he never failed to have an appreciative audience. The great evangelist, Dwight L. Moody, had picked Carleton to recite hymns for a gathering of Chicago urchins and so well did the boys receive him that he was encored over and over again until becoming exhausted, he would escape through a side door.

Besides "Betsy and I Are Out", Carleton wrote a number of popular ballads, among them "The Hill to the Poorhouse", "The First Settlers' Story", "Gone With A Handsome Man", "Out of the Old House, Nancy", and "Uncle Sammy".

After many years absence in the East, he returned home and his own people gave him a great hand. Plowman, clergymen, shopkeepers and school children all ran after him like the boys and girls ran after the pig-piper to honor the man who had taught them that there was poetry and beauty in all that lay about them.

A short distance from the Carleton farm stands the little school-house where Will learned his three "R's". It is called the Carleton School, and a portrait of him hangs on the wall along with the picture of President Truman.

"Betsy and I Are Out" was based on data gathered while Carleton was covering a divorce case for a local paper. "Over the Hill to the Poorhouse" was inspired when he conversed with the inmates of a country home for the destitute near Hillsdale. "The First Settlers' Story" was largely the story of his pioneer parents in the days when they struggled against terrible odds to clear their holdings.

Carleton gained his first experience as a newshound with the "Western Rural", illustrated farm and family magazine published in Chicago. Later he became part-owner and editor of the Hillsdale Standard.

Assuming charge of the "Detroit Weekly Tribune", Will Carleton worked on the paper two days a week, the remainder of his time being occupied with lecturing and writing on various topics, all of which appears to have been greedily gobbled up by his publishers.

During his first trip East to confer with his publishers (1873), he took time out to see many historical shrines. Here, too, he got acquainted with Mark Twain, John Hay, and other literary men of the place. He returned en-

Girl Guide News

Enthusiastic Rustico

Our let North Rustico Company has just "Grown and Grewed" like Topsy. The Field Secretary had a really terrific evening on Wednesday with 30 Guides all anxiously waiting to be passed for tests. The meeting grew longer and longer but we surely had the most varied meeting ever held and managed to get in something of everything.

Mrs. Ralph Dumont, a Commissioner of Charlottetown, came along to help and she passed the 12 Tenderfoot Guides while the Field Secretary passed for the Second Class Test.

The Leader, Mrs. C. Laskey is unfortunately so busy with other duties that she is unable to help very much, but Mother Superior and Sister St. Mary, with the help of the senior Guides, have kept the Company going splendidly, and it is a grand credit to Rustico. The politeness and general deportment of the Guides is a genuine pleasure and although the evening was a little hectic, with trying to crowd so much in it was most enjoyable to the visitors.

It was Mrs. Dumont's first Guide meeting for ten years and she told the girls that she was full of renewed enthusiasm for Guiding, and how pleased that Rustico was her first meeting. To see the joy of Guiding as demonstrated is a thrill for anyone and cannot help but make one feel proud and glad to be a part of such youth organization. The work of passing the tests progressed rapidly due to the fact that the girls knew the answers and had obviously been working on them.

Isobel Blacquerre helped with the Recruits and is working with 4 other Guides on the First Class badge. Indeed Mother Superior said that much of the actual Company work has been carried on by these Senior Guides. Girls passing the Nature and Trail test were: Alvire Gallant, Carmelita Blacquerre, Annette, Blacquerre, Vaunda Gallant Joan Doiron, Shirley Gallant, Emily Ann Peters, Guelda and Jean Gallant, Inez Doucette, Velda Blacquerre, Helen Doucette, Annette Leclair, Mildred and Betty Gallant.

Those passing the Tenderfoot were: Patricia Gauthier, Frances Doiron, Marie and Audrey Gallant, Bernadine Gauthier, Hazel Doiron, Thelma and Mary Gallant, Leona Doiron, Virginia Gauthier, Marie Pineau and Mary Gauthier.

Stalking games were played outside with much merriment and trails were laid demonstrating the correct signs. Perhaps the most important event of the evening was the enrollment of 12 new Guides all marched into horseshoe formation to a musical accompaniment by Isobel and the Recruits were introduced to Mrs. Jenkins in the correct manner. At the completion of the ceremony prayers were led by Mrs. Jenkins, who spoke of the importance of the Promise.

Mrs. Dumont congratulated the Guides on their splendid progress, and Mother Superior spoke also. The Guides were told of the proposed National Camp in 1932 and advised to keep up their guide work. Photographs of the Toronto Rally were passed around. The evening closed with a lovely Camp-fire, singing, evensong and Taps. The Guides thanked the visitors for coming and went home making plans for the proposed picnic hike to be held with the Field Secretary in August. How about August 12th, Guides?

thuslatic over the reception given him and over the favorable outlook for his prospective book "Farm Ballads".

Men!

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BURGESS BEDTIME

Continued from page 10

Indeed, Black Pussy looked very fierce indeed. His yellow eyes had an ugly look. The sharp, curved claws in his front toes were showing as he crouched.

"I'm going to catch you and eat you," growled Black Pussy. "That's what I'm going to do. I'm going to catch you and eat you."

Little Jim didn't try to run away. He remembered what had happened with Peter Rabbit. He made a sudden little jump straight toward Black Pussy, and stamped with his little black feet. He threw up his tail. It was all so unexpected that Black Pussy hastily backed a little. Then he tried to get around behind Little Jim. Little Jim turned so as to always face him. Each time he stamped his feet and threw up his tail and made all the hair on his small body stand up, trying to make himself look bigger than he was. "Why don't you catch me and eat me?" he asked.

"I will," growled Black Pussy. But Black Pussy didn't do anything of the kind. Long ago Black Pussy had been taught an unpleasant lesson by Jimmy Skunk and he never had forgotten it. Little Jim might be little, but he was a

TIERED OF STUFFING

PETERBORO, Ont. — (CP) — Miss Isobel Elcome, who has handled hundreds of sport fish as a taxidermist, is getting tired of other people's fish stories. "I'm going to buy a line, find a shady tree, and get some myself," she says.

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