

The Man from Tom's River

WHO DIDN'T PROPOSE TO ALLOW AN ENEMY TO LAND ON HIS COAST.

You may have seen something in the papers about the coast defenses. The idea has somehow got abroad that our coasts ought to be lined with forts and guns as a warning to Europe against declaring war against us some morning before breakfast. Engineers have surveyed and reported, and congressional committees have sat and reported, and for about \$80,000,000 we can get things in such shape that when the enemy's first iron-clad heaves in-sight she can be saluted in proper style.

A lot of us were sitting in the depot waiting room at Trenton, and the only man who had a newspaper was reading away for dear life, when a stranger entered with two satchels and a tall girl, chucked the baggage under a seat, waved the girl to another, and walked up to the man with the newspaper and asked:

"Mister, is there anything in the paper about our coast defenses?"

"No, sir," was the gruff reply.

"That's singular. Have they given up the idea, do you think?"

"I don't know what you mean, sir."

"You don't! Why, they've been talking for the last year about building forts to protect our coasts. I live down near the mouth of Tom's river, and I rather expect they'll build a big fort there. The way things are now England, France or Germany could declare war against us and land a force at Tom's river before we had our eyes open. They'd land right on my farm, and nobody knows the damage they'd do. Don't see anything about a fort at Tom's river, eh?"

"No, sir."

"Well, that's singular. If this government expects me to get down behind a rock with my old shotgun and keep Europe from landing at that point it's expecting a little too much of one man. I'd fight to the death, of course, but the chances are that a hull navy could lick one nigh-sighted man. So the paper don't say anything?"

"Didn't I tell you no in the first place?"

"Say! maybe you don't keer a copper about coast defenses!" exclaimed the two-satchel man, as a red spot appeared on either cheek.

"Not a copper, sir!"

"I thought so from the start. You live out in Michigan or Indiana or Illinois, and are tucked away in some holler where the sheriff can't find ye, let alone an invader of our sacred sile? Oh, no, you don't keer!"

"Father!" chided the girl as she half rose; but he turned on her with:

"Mary, you keep shet! I've allus thought if Europe declared war agin' us we'd have plenty of enemies right at home, and here's a case to prove it! Stranger, did you fight in the last war?"

"None of your business, sir!"

"There's his open hand, gentlemen!" said the two-satchel man as he turned to the crowd. "When you find a man who don't keer how soon the hull of Europe jumps on this country you have found a man who'd dig up the bones of Washington and sell 'em to a junk man for \$5!"

The man with the newspaper laid it down, got on his feet and asked the other if he would step out doors for a minute.

"No, sir, I won't!" was the prompt reply. "In the first place, I've got these two satchels to put; in the second place, there's Mary; in the third place, I don't fight with no man who didn't fight in the last war. In the first place, I asked ye if there was anything in the paper about our coast defenses."

"And I said no, you idiot!"

"And you said you didn't keer!"

"Neither do I."

"There's his hand agin, gentlemen!" While I'm lying behind a rock at Tom's river, waiting to sell my life in defence of my country, here's a feller from Ooon Holler, State of Indiana, who don't keer a cooper's copper how quick Europe kivers New Jersey with the blood of our bravest men."

"Father!" chided Mary again.

"You let me alone, Mary! You know all about carpet rags, and housework, and darning, but you never heard the rattle of war. If Europe is goin' to jump onto this country I want to know who's goin' to shoot me in the back as I face the enemy."

The man with the newspaper opened it and sat down with a dangerous glitter in his eyes, and there was a solemn silence for a few minutes. Then the Tom's river man edged over to Mary and they slid out together. Then he beckoned through the open window to three or four of us, and as we went out he surrounded us and whispered:

"Gentlemen, it's my solemn opinion that that feller is a jannisary from Europe who has come over here to coax Uncle Sam not to put up any coast defense. I want to say right here, and I want you to hear it and remember it, that if the enemy lands at Tom's river it will be over my dead body, and I won't be to blame for it."—M. Quad.

The Instinct of Self-Preservation.

"I never realized the strength of the instinct of self-preservation in man," said John F. Thompson, "until I witnessed a test of it on a steamboat. Among the passengers was a man who had a black rattlesnake in a box with a glass top. The snake was a very vicious one, and would strike the glass whenever anyone approached. The owner of the reptile challenged any one in the crowd to hold his finger on the glass and let the snake strike at it. There could not be any danger, and there was not a man who did not think it an easy thing to do. One big fellow, who looked as if he never knew what nerves were, tried it first, and, after repeated attempts, gave it up. Then every passenger in the boat attempted it, and failure followed in each case. It simply could not be done. Instinct was stronger than reason and will power combined."

"I witnessed another illustration of this in Paris. A young man had lost his last sou at a gambling table. Not only was he without means, but he had lost a large sum belonging to his employer. He started for the Seine to drown himself. On the way there was a great commotion, caused by the escape of a tiger from a strolling menagerie. The animal came down the street and people fled in every direction. Instantly the man who was seeking death climbed a lamp post and hung on to the top of it, trembling in every muscle. When the animal was captured and the danger was over he went to the river and committed suicide. I was interested in the account of the suicide, and, prompted by curiosity, went to see the body, instantly recognizing it as that of the young man whom I had seen make so frantic an effort to escape death, evidently but a few minutes before he sought it, and at the very time that he was seeking an opportunity to end his existence."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Heart Disease and Longevity.

Let those who are haunted with suspicions of heart disease, and even those who have good reason to know that they are suffering, take courage from a story told by the late Sir Andrew Clark in the course of his clinical lecture at the London Hospital. After reminding the young students of the necessity for caution in the "prognosis," or forecast, of the progress of this disease, Sir Andrew went on to relate an anecdote of a house governor of that very hospital—a clergyman who was about to be married:

His intended father-in-law came to him and said: "You see, you have no money, sir; you must go and get your life insured." At the end of the medical examination the physicians said to him, "We cannot accept you." "Why?" said the astonished house governor. "Oh, we would rather not say." "But," he said, "I have never been ill in my life" (and indeed he was a sturdy fellow.) "Well," said the physicians, "if you will have it, you gave got heart disease." "Heart disease? How long shall I live? Shall I live six months?" "Oh," replied the medical men, "you may do that."

He went home, and the match was broken off. He wrote to the committee saying that, as he had a mortal disease of the heart and could not live for six months, he withdrew his application for rooms wherein to dwell with his wife. On the receipt of this letter the committee deliberated and said, "We must superannuate him, poor fellow; and as he has but six months to live we will let him have his full pay." Accordingly he was superannuated upon his full pay, and upon this superannuity (said Sir Andrew) he lived for more than fifty years.—London Daily News.

St. Paul's New Clock.

The new clock at St. Paul's Cathedral was started recently, says the English Mechanic. It was made by Smith & Son, of Derby, and is fitted with the double three-leg gravity escapement designed by Lord Grimthorpe, which has proved to be the best choice of the kind for large clocks. The pendulum is 15 feet long, and weighs 700 pounds. The old bell, known from the name of the maker as the Phelps bell, is again used for striking, and the old bells for the quarters, but they have been raised higher in the lantern. The Phelps bell weighs 5 tons, 400 pounds. The hammer weighs 200 pounds. The full diameter of the dials is 17 feet, and the central part, that is the space within the figure, is 10 feet. The figures are 2 feet 9 inches long, and the hands are of copper, specially shaped to resist wind and snow. The minute hand is 9 feet 6 inches long, and the hour hand 5 feet long. The weights are carried on steel ropes, and weigh half a ton each. The clock requires winding every day, and by an ingenious arrangement the clock itself stops the winding when about to strike.

There is an epidemic of measles in New York city. The cases average 100 per day and the deaths from the disease 17.

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BACK AGAIN.

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respectfully informs his numerous old customers and the public generally that he has returned to Fenelon Falls and resumed

The Boot and Shoe Business

in the store lately occupied by Mr. S. Nevison on the east side of Colborne street, and hopes by turning out

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WM. SHERMAN, Agent, Cobocok.
JOHN BRANDON, or HENRY BROOKS, Fenelon Falls.
Cobocok, Dec. 1st, 1893.

A Great Offer.

The Globe of Toronto is offering great inducements in connection with their weekly for 1894. To all subscribers who forward them one dollar by the end of December inst., they will send The Weekly Globe for 1894, and, in addition, present them with a copy of "Hints for the Million," published by Messrs. Rand, McNally & Co., the celebrated publishers of Chicago and New York.

This work is an invaluable book of reference and handy for the household, being a compendium of thousands of new and valuable recipes and suggestions on hygiene, medicine, business affairs, travelling, the workshop, laboratory, house, kitchen, garden, stable, etc. The regular selling price is 35c; it is worth one dollar.

Useful to an inquisitive and economical housekeeper.—New York Sun

A book which will be found useful by everybody.—Boston Traveller.

A very useful thing for a handy person.—New Orleans Picayune.

The "Hints" are comprehensive enough, and the wonder is they aren't called a "Household Encyclopedia."—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

More useful information could not well be crowded in the same space.—San Francisco Bulletin.

No well regulated household should be without a copy of "Hints for the Million."—Spirit of the Times.

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SECOND DIVISION COURT

— OF THE —

County of Victoria.

The next sittings of the above Court will be held in Dickson's hall, Fenelon Falls,

ON MONDAY, FEB'Y 19th, 1894,

commencing at 10 o'clock in the forenoon

Thursday, February 8th will be the last day of service on defendants residing in this county. Defendants living in other counties must be served on or before Dec. 2nd.

S. NEVISON, E. D. HAND, Clerk

Fenelon Falls, December 22nd, 1893.

NOTICE.

To the residents of Fenelon Falls.

Take notice that any person or persons removing from any village or district infected with diphtheria to Fenelon Falls will be quarantined for a period of 14 days or longer, at the discretion of the Board of Health. The citizens of Fenelon Falls who do not wish to be so inconvenienced will govern themselves accordingly.

By order of the Board of Health.

A. WILSON, M. D., Medical Health Officer

Fenelon Falls, Feb'y 22nd, 1893. 1-t. f.



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