

STRONG AND STEADY

By HORATIO ALGER, JR.

CHAPTER XXI.

Though Walter was in a room on the second floor, the distance to the ground was not so great but that he could easily bang from the window and jump without injury.

Nothing could have surprised Jack more than this sudden turning of the tables. But a minute since Walter was completely in his power.

There was no reply, for Walter was already half way out of the window, and did not think it best to answer.

He was leaning against an immense tree, one of the largest and oldest in the forest. Walter began to examine it.

He emerged from the trunk, and once more three himself down beside it. Five minutes later and his attention was drawn by a sound of approaching footsteps.

Walter started to his feet in dismay. The first thought was immediate flight, but if he were heard by Jack, the latter would no doubt be able to run him down.

Quickly the hollow trunk occurred to him. With a little delay as possible he concealed himself in the interior.

It was certainly a very uncomfortable situation for Walter. He hardly dared to breathe or to stir lest his enemy should hear him.

"He's led me a pretty tramp," muttered Jack, "but I'm bound to get hold of him to-night. If I do, I'll half kill him."

Then I hope you won't get hold of him," Walter ejaculated, inwardly.

But Jack was in no hurry. He appeared to wish to waylay Walter, and was constantly listening to catch the sound of his approach.

Then he started, and Walter, listening intently, heard the sound of his receding steps. When sufficient time had elapsed, he ventured out from his concealment.

What should he do? It was hardly prudent to go on, for it would only bring him nearer the enemy.

Jack pushed on, believing that our hero was in advance. It had been a fatiguing day, and this made his present midnight tramp more disagreeable.

While he is sleeping we will go back to Walter. He, too, was sleepy, and would gladly have lain down and slept if he had dared.

"I wish I was at home, and in bed," he muttered. "I'll lie down and take a short nap, and then start again."

He threw himself on the ground, and in five minutes his senses were locked in a deep slumber, which, instead of a short nap, continued for several hours.

Searching about he found such a place as he desired. He lay down, and was soon fast asleep. So pursued and pursued had yielded to the spell of the same unwholesome, and half a mile distant from

each other were enjoying welcome repose. Some hours passed away. The sun rose, and its rays lighted up the dim recesses of the forest.

"I must have been sleeping several hours," he said to himself, "for it is now morning. I wonder if the man who was after me has gone home?"

He decided that this was probable, and resolved to make an attempt to reach the edge of the forest.

"I have seen him," said Walter, eagerly. "It was strange that such a coarse brute should have inspired any woman with love, but Meg did certainly love her husband, in spite of his frequent bad treatment."

"Did he see you?" "No, I was hidden."

"How long did he stay?" "Only a few minutes, to get rested, I suppose. Then he went on."

"I'm glad he did not harm you. He was so angry when he started that I was afraid of what would happen if he met you. You must keep out of his way."

"That is what I mean to do if I can," said Walter. "Can you tell me the shortest way out of the woods?"

"Go in that direction," said the woman, pointing, "and half a mile will bring you out."

"It is rather hard to follow a straight path in the woods. If you will act as my guide, I will give you a dollar."

"If my husband should find out that I helped you to escape, he would be very angry."

"Why need he know? You needn't tell him you met me."

The woman hesitated. "Finally love of money prevailed."

"I'll do it," she said, abruptly. "Follow me."

She took the lead, and Walter followed closely in her steps. Remembering the night before, he was not wholly assured of her good faith, and resolved to keep his eyes open, and make his escape instantly if he should see any signs of treachery.

"This is the money I agreed to pay you," he said. "Thank you, besides."

"I hear my husband's steps," she said, hurriedly. "Fly or it will be the worse for you."

"Thank you for the caution," said Walter, rousing to the necessity for immediate action.

"Don't stop to thank me. Go!" she said, stamping her foot impatiently. He obeyed at once, and started on a run across the meadow. A minute later, Jack came in sight.

"You'll be sorry for it, then," said Jack, fiercely. He had walked back about fifty feet, and then faced round. His intention was clear enough. He meant to jump over the ditch. Our hero took the plank and put it over his shoulder, moving with it farther down the edge.

Jack stood still for a moment, and then, gathering up his strength, dashed forward. Arrived at the brink, he made a spring, but the soft bank yielded him no support. He fell short of the opposite bank by at least two feet, and, to his anger and disgust, landed in the water and slime at the bottom of the ditch.

He scrambled out, landing at last, but with the loss of one boot, which had been drawn off by the clinging mud in which it had become firmly planted. Still he was on the same side with Walter, and the latter was now in his power.

Walter was what he thought; but an instant later he saw his mistake. Walter had stretched the plank over the ditch a few rods further up, and was passing over it in safety.

(To be continued.)

SIoux WOMEN.

Among the Sioux it was no disgrace to the chief's daughter to work with her hands. Indeed, says Charles A. Eastman in "Old Indian Days," their standard of worth was the willingness to work, but not for the sake of accumulation, only in order to give.

Generosity is a trait that is highly developed in the Sioux woman. She makes many necessaries and other articles of clothing for her male relatives, or for any who are not well provided.

She loves to see her brother the best dressed among the young men, and the necessaries, especially of a young brave, are the pride of his womankind.

Her own necessaries are plain, her leggings close-fitting and not as high as her brother's. She parts her smooth, jet black hair in the middle and plaits it in two braids. Her ornaments, sparingly worn, are beads, ecks' teeth, and a touch of red paint. No feathers are worn by the woman, unless in a sacred dance.

There is an etiquette of sitting and standing, which is strictly observed. The woman must never raise her knees or cross her feet when seated. She seats herself on the ground sideways, with both feet under her.

Nearly all her games are different from those of the men. She has a sport of wand-throwing which develops fine muscles of the shoulders and back. The wands are about eight feet long, and taper gradually from an inch and a half to half an inch in diameter. Some of them are artistically made, with heads of bone or horn, and it is remarkable to what a distance they may be made to slide over the ground.

In the feminine game of ball, which is something like "shiny," the ball is driven with curved sticks between two goals. It is played with from two to three hundred on a side, and a game between two bands or villages is a picturesque event.

Why He Kicked. "Some people are chronic kickers," growled the hotel clerk, "and it's no use trying to satisfy them."

"What's the trouble now?" queried the reporter. "You saw that solemn looking chap making a get-away as you came in?"

"A pass," said the pencil pusher. "A few minutes later," continued the key jigger, "he rushed back to the office, and as a March hare, and jumped all over me, figuratively speaking. It seems that he had come here for the purpose of doing the suicide act by turning on the gas and I assigned him to a room lighted by electricity."

Part of the Treatment. "So you believe in charging heavy fees?" "Yes," answered the physician, "but only for the patient's own good. If you can make him feel that he has an investment with you he is more likely to follow instructions carefully in order to get his money's worth."

Family Reports. "If you could only make money like your father," sighed the disappointed wife, "things would be all right."

"And if you could only cook half as well as your mother did things wouldn't be so bad, either," replied the husband, who was by no means altogether pleased.—Detroit Free Press.

His Steady Job. Rigley—"You don't believe in a college education then?" Jigley—"No; it unfit a man for everything except to sit around croaking about how much more intelligently he could enjoy wealth than the average man does.—Catholic Standard and Times.

Useless Sacrifice. Edyth—"It's too bad that Clara was in love with Jack when he proposed to me. I feel sorry for the poor girl."

AMUSEMENTS AT THE CHICAGO THEATERS.

Following "The Man From Home" at the Chicago Opera House, the Messrs. Shubert will offer "Girls," the latest play by Clyde Fitch. This piece, which met with the greatest success in Washington, D. C. and Philadelphia, is a satire on bachelor girls, and is said to be the brightest and breeziest play Mr. Fitch has ever produced.

Following "The Rose of the Rancho," at the Garrick Theater, Henry Miller and Margaret Anglin will appear in "The Great Divide," William Vaughn Moody's truly great play.

The spring season which is usually supposed to be attended by an attack of spring fever and general indifference in the amusement world, does not seem to affect the standard of the bills at the big Majestic Theater, Chicago.

A noted headliner for the week of April 27th is Wm. F. Hawtrey, the celebrated English actor, whose recent appearance in this country has been marked by great enthusiasm.

At the Auditorium Theater, Chicago, "The Dairy Maids," Charles Frohman's big song show, awakened such a popular demand while playing at the Illinois Theater that it is to be brought back immediately for a two weeks' engagement at the Auditorium, where it will open next Sunday, April 29th, with a matinee.

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The play concerns the efforts of a wealthy English lady to establish a model dairy farm with her niece and maid maids, girls will be girls, however, and the niece's sweethearts, who are also their cousins, pursue them over to the farm. Auntie does not approve of love-making and sends the girls back to school.

The choice of holdings was not wholly dependent on the power of the purse. "Side Glances from the Colonial Meeting House," by William Root Bliss, gives an idea of how such affairs were arranged by the church fathers.

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The best seats were allotted to men of title. One town in 1700 voted that "Col. Daniel Pierce shall have the 1st choice of pews and Maj. Thomas Noyes shall have the 2nd."

To make room for another person of importance, it was commanded that "Master Joseph Hibberd's wife move out of the long fore seat into the short fore seat."

Judge Sewall seemed to have difficulty in getting his wife settled permanently. In his diary he records: "Lord's Day: April 1: Sat with my wife in her Pew. April 8: Introduced her into my Pew and sat with her there."

THE SEATS OF THE MIGHTY In the old days of the New England colonies the seating of the church congregation was a matter of social importance. A prominent occupying of pews would have been a proceeding outside the limits of order and decency.

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April 15: Conducted my wife to the Fore Seat."

A code of precedence in regard to choosing "pews" is thus given by a meeting house committee: 1st. Dignity of Descent. 2nd. Place of Public Trust. 3rd. Pious disposition and behavior. 4th. Estate. 5th. Peculiar Serviceableness of any kind.

In a record of 1717 the town of Windsor, Conn., expressed its opinion of seating in these words: "Those that have seats of their own are not to be seated nowhere else."

Among the humbler classes, persons "hard of hearing" were allowed to sit on the pulpit stairs. One church voted that "Three Short Seats be built upon the Pulpit Stairs for Audent persons to sit in."

A benevolently inclined individual announces that he "Doe give 3 pounds toward erecting a place for Indians and Negroes to Settle in."

You can't vote in Norway unless you have been vaccinated.

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"JAYS," EASTERN AND WESTERN

New Yorker Says the Best Types Are Found in New England. Your editorial reference to New York as "the most provincial city in the country" strikes me as a bit severe, but, being a New Yorker, perhaps I am prejudiced, says a contributor to the Kansas City Star.

It is not strange, however, that silly demonstrations should make Westerners bristle, for it is in the great West that the people have the better pose in daily intercourse, even if they are apt to be radical in politics.

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It has a large population, its population includes many Italians, Greeks, Germans, and other nationalities. Its blend shows in the intelligence of the people, the pulse of kindly consideration in the West, an openness to the selfish manifestations often met in the East. And as for "Jay" territory, they are never typical in the new States. They are typical in the older settlements of the West, especially in New England, where they have undergone but little change in fifty years.

DO YOU NOT KNOW THE "Ys" OF INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY

Japan needs Korea and longs for our Philippines. Russia wants India and England wants to check that design. Our Fleet is needed in the Pacific. The Panama Canal would tremendously increase our Naval Efficiency. AND ALL THE OTHER "WHYS" THE PRESS DAILY BRING UP FOR CONSIDERATION. A Good World Map Enables You to Reason Out These "Ys"

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