



WRITTEN FOR THE EVENING STAR BY HOWARD FIELDING.

CHAPTER IX. A Plot Against the University.

LAWRENCE BANGS had been reading from the works of Quintus Horatius Flaccus, a gentleman for whom he entertained a high state of mind the most cordial sentiments.

It was 11 o'clock, and that was a very early hour for Lawrence to cease studying. He had had less appetite for study on this night than on any other that he could remember.

He had reached a crisis which usually comes much later in the college life of a thoughtful man, that period, to put it plainly, when he first realizes that he does not know as much as he thought he did.

Not one educated man in a thousand really knows very much about the alphabet. He cannot give its full history, nor suggest a truly valuable improvement upon it, nor even say it backward without making a mistake.

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"I'll take the risk," said Lawrence, "both ways. I can get you to behave in society. You can't do it so that I can pitch, game, and I will get you into the sweetest social affair there is in New Haven during the remainder of the year."

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"I would suggest," said Lawrence, turning his spectacles toward Paddy, "that you give me some brief theoretical demonstration of the way in which you would teach me to pitch."

"I do," responded Paddy, promptly. "What do you think it was?"

"Why, this way," said Paddy, and he barked the ball against the fence once more.

This scrap of conversation may give some idea of the difficulties under which Lawrence labored. And it is, however, the most pertinent blood in his veins that he triumphed over these obstacles and earned to pitch a curved ball within a few feet.

Lawrence, as has been said, was strong, though very thin from overwork. He depended speed wonderfully soon.

he had secured the roof of a thin five-foot with Paddy seemed to have faded all of his face. The first man at the bat in Harvard's seventh inning was so exceedingly fortunate as to get a home run.

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SHORT-HAND WRITERS Modern Stenographers Must Be Men of No Small Capacity.

PITFALLS FOR THE BEGINNER

Washington's Tremendous Array of Stenographic Talent.

EXPERTS BORN, NOT MADE

Written for The Evening Star. O CITY IN THE United States contains more stenographers than Washington.

This assertion came from a well-known member of that profession, who has a hobby of collecting statistics, and for this reason cannot very well be contradicted. It was while discussing the vocations of certain people, as they passed along F street, that the remark was made to a reporter of The Evening Star.

"You can hardly conceive," continued the stenographic statistician, "how many people in this city possess the knowledge of shorthand. I have calculated that there are in the neighborhood of 7,000 people in Washington who are paid to follow a shorthand system."

"It has been frequently asserted by out-of-town stenographers that the government does not pay salaries large enough to attract the best talent to the service."

"To illustrate to you how complicated a thing shorthand is, let me tell you a story wherein one of the brightest men in the Capitol was a slow thinker and talker.

"Almost everybody knows that practice is the secret of success in shorthand, and there is no such a thing as too much of it. I can imagine the smiles of sarcasm that would illumine the faces of the force up at the Capitol if they heard that expression, but it is a fact, notwithstanding.

"The charcoal business has been on the decline for thirty years. Its first great downward came with the introduction of a kindling wood, a business that has grown to large proportions. Kindling wood has, in this city, almost entirely taken the place of charcoal in its ordinary domestic uses.

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over in Baltimore. He was only seventeen years old at that time, and did composition about \$5 a week. The firm had a tremendous mail to answer daily, and the words were necessarily out of the usual run.

"I feel he must possess certain faculties to an unusual degree in order to attain any considerable success in either work. Work at this kind of dictation in shorthand is two-fold. One must strain every nerve to catch each word as it falls from the lips of a rapid speaker and at the same time to put it down in shorthand in two-fold.

"I have noticed that the attention is given in the business the less attention is given to the mechanical part of stenographic writing. One becomes so thoroughly familiar with the system that it is as though the writer was for the time being transformed into an automaton and made the necessary characters mechanically and without effort of mind or brain.

"The soft-shell crab is well opened and the markets of New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore are flooded with the market to the Pacific coast or to any interior point, and in fact oysters have been planted along the coast of Washington and California until now the western oyster industry is of some importance.

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HYGEIA HOTEL, Old Point Comfort, Va.

DO YOU LONG FOR A SALT SEA BATH, OR THE COOL, INVIGORATING OCEAN BREEZE? ARE YOU IN SEARCH OF A SPOT WHERE PURE PROSPECT PLEASES, WHERE THE GOOD CHEER AND COMFORT PREVAIL AND DULL CARE NEVER ENTERS?

SOFT SHELL CRABS

Over a Thousand Men Employed in the Fisheries.

WILLIONS HANDED IN A SEASON

How They Are Caught and Sent to Market.

THE "SHEDDING" PROCESS

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