

BRET HARTE ON JOHN BURNS

HAVE you heard the story that gossip tell
Of Burns of Gettysburg? No? Ah, well!
Brief is the glory that hero earns.
Brief the story of poor John Burns.
He was the fellow who won renown—
The only man who didn't back down
When the rebels rode through his native town
But held his own in the tightest nest day.

I might tell you, but the day before,
John Burns stood in his cottage door,
Looking down the village street,
Where, in the shade of his peaceful vine,
He heard the low of his gathered kine,
And felt their breath with incense sweet.
Or I might say, when the incense burned
The old farm table, he thought it turned
The milk that fell in a babbling flood
Into the milk pail, red as blood;
Or how he fancied the hum of bees
Were bullets buzzing among the trees.
But all such fanciful thoughts as these
Were strange to a practical man like Burns.
Who minded only his own concerns,
Troubled no more by fanciful things
Than one of his calm-eyed, long-tailed kine—
Quite old-fashioned and matter of fact.
Slow to argue, but quick to act,
That was the reason, as some folks say,
He fought so well on that terrible day.

Just where the title of battle turns,
Sweet and lonely stood old John Burns.
How do you think the man was dressed?
He wore an ancient long-sleeved vest,
Yellow as saffron—but his best,
And buttons over his hairy breast.
Was a bright blue with a rolling collar
And large gilt buttons—size of a dollar—
With tails that country folk call "swallow."
He wore a broad-brimmed, bell-crowned hat,
White as the locks on which it sat.
Never had such a sight been seen
For forty years on the village green.
Since old John Burns was a country beau,
And went to the "quitting" long ago.

Close at his elbows all that day
Veterans of the peninsula
Sunburnt and bearded, charged away:
And striplings, downy of lip and chin;
Clerks that the Home Guard mustered in.
Glanced, as they passed, at the hat he wore.
Then at the rife his right hand bore,
And hailed him from out their youthful lore
With scraps of slangy repertoire.
"How are you, White Horse?" "Put her through!"
"Your head's level!" and "Bully for you!"
"Called him 'daddy,'" begged he'd disclose
The name of the tailor who made his clothes,
And what was the value he set on those.
While Burns, unmindful of leer and scoff,
Stood there picking through the soldiers' stuff,
With his long brown rife, and bell-crowned hat,
And the swallow-tails they were laughing at.

'Twas but a moment, for that respect
Which clothes all courage their voices checked;
And something the wildest could understand,
Spoke in the old man's strong right hand:
And his corded throat, and lurking frown
Of his eyebrows under his old bell-crown,
Until, as they gazed, there came an awe,
Through the ranks in whispers, and some men saw,
The antique vestments and long white hair,
The Past of the Nation in battle there.
And some of the soldiers since declare
That the gleam of his old white hair
Like the crest of the plume of the brave Savarre
That day was their oriflame of war.

So raged the battle. You know the rest:
How the rebels, beaten and backward pressed,
Frook at the final charge, and ran;
That John Burns—a private man—
Shouldered his rife, unbent his brows,
And then went back to his bees and cows.

That is the story of Old John Burns:
The moral the reader learns
In fighting the battle, the question's whether
You'll show a hat that's white, or a feather.

HUERTA HAS CASH FOR A FEW MONTHS

About \$15,000,000 Left for War Purposes Out of the Recent Loan.

JAPANESE GET ORDER FOR 200,000 MAUSERS

Delay Is Announced in Making Compulsory Military Service Law Effective.

Special Correspondence of The Star.
MEXICO CITY, June 23, 1913.
The expenditure of the money borrowed by Mexico in the latter part of May, about 200,000,000 pesos, is not going to be at all difficult, according to reliable information something like \$5,000,000 gold already has been disbursed, and there remains on hand not more than \$2,900,000 gold. The loan was placed at 50, and a commission of at least 2 per cent was paid, leaving the total amount actually available not more than \$8,000,000 gold. The \$5,000,000 already paid out is accounted for roughly by \$2,000,000 returned to New York bankers in the shape of bonds and \$35,000,000 the national bank for the payment of accounts in Paris and London and other pressing claims. Of the remaining \$2,000,000 the government has promised to pay \$7,000,000 for port improvements at Salina Cruz, Vera Cruz, Tampico and Frontera, and other items listed account for a few millions more, leaving available for the war fund probably not more than \$15,000,000 gold.

An unofficial estimate of the cost of the general conduct of the war, including keeping the army in the field, is \$7,500,000 a month, providing, of course, that all bills are liquidated. In addition to this borrowed money the government has its ordinary income, but this has been materially reduced because of a diminution in the totals of imports upon which duties are collected and a reduction in the sale of stamps for the conduct of general business. Given these conditions, there is speculation in Mexico City today as to how long President Huerta's financial resources will hold out, and the general opinion is that they will last between three and four months.

Captures Town to Wed.
That the spirit of romance never is far from that of fighting is frequently to be seen these days in stories brought in from the provinces. Natero Elizondo, a

DARING ROBBERIES BAFFLE THE POLICE

Expert International Crooks at Work in London, the Authorities Believe.

LONDON, June 18, 1913.
London and several other large cities of England have been suffering of late from an epidemic of jewelry robberies and others. From the way some of the thefts have been carried out the police have come to the conclusion that they are the work of expert international crooks, and the authorities are keeping a close watch on the crowds of those gentry who visit London during the season. Other cases, however, are obviously the work of amateurs, several of whom have been gathered in by the detectives from Scotland Yard. That the police, on the other hand, have been baffled by many of the robberies in which large sums have been involved, they themselves admit. In one or two cases they are convinced that the "victims" reported robberies to cover losses of jewelry either through fraud or gambling, and these occurrences have been marked off of the police books as solved. Still in a large number of cases are receiving close attention.

Rob Well Guarded House.
One of the most daring of these recent thefts was made from Christie's, the famous auction rooms, which is probably one of the best guarded places in the metropolis. At the conclusion of day's sale the attendants found that three important engravings had been taken from the walls. How they were carried away is a complete mystery. They were all framed and of a fairly large size, but nevertheless none of the watchful attendants saw anything suspicious. Robberies have been very rare at Christie's, where articles of enormous value are always being shown or sold. The last occasion on which one was attempted was some years ago, when an American woman tried to take a pearl necklace. She was caught and sent to prison.

Routine Work Taught.
The school, which, if successful, will be copied in all the cities of the country, is partly residential and partly day. All girls will go into residence for at least eight weeks in the year, in order to gain practical experience of the routine work of a household. Mr. Peace, in his opening address, said the government appreciated efforts of the kind, and in connection with trade schools had practically doubled the grants.

Buying Arms of Japan.

Mexico has shifted her trade in arms and ammunition from German manufactures to Japanese. The war department has contracted to purchase from a house in Japan 200,000 rifles of the Mauser type. They are to be finished with a number of improvements over the old Mauser, and in order to avoid the use of inferior materials and to guarantee careful and exact work at the factory a commission of three Mexican army officers will supervise the work of filling the order. A range of 1,500 feet more than that of the old type is claimed for the new arm, with a considerably increased muzzle velocity.

New Military Law Lax.

Compulsory military service was to have been inaugurated in Mexico June 1, but it was then announced that before the president's decree providing for enforced service could be put into effect it would be necessary to make a number of changes in the law which would make its application impracticable for some six months longer.

The proposed scheme of compulsory enlistment is regarded by many as rather lax. One of its provisions is that any man earning more than a soldier's wage shall be exempt. Heads of families, or any one able to show that some one is dependent on him, also may plead exemption. These exemptions would confine the draft to the most ordinary laboring classes, not materially different from those now composing the army.

It is not a secret that the recruits under the present system, are drafted just as much as if there were in force a law compelling service. For the most part they are taken from the jails, but not infrequently well built young men whose only crimes are being "out of a job" are forced into the ranks. So common has this custom become that protests are frequent, and at times very annoying to the authorities. The appearance of the recruiting officer in a given locality has been known to drive the entire male population to hiding in the hills, to return only when the representative of the army had taken himself elsewhere.

Foreign Travel Just Now If You Like—But!



"Europe may be all right for some folks, but a good day at Rollercoaster Park with the kids is good enough for any one. Mother, have you got the \$2.00 for car fare?"

HECHT & COMPANY, Something "Bargainly Unusual" Announced Today in the Post on Two Pages—Don't Miss It SEVENTH NEAR F.

July Challenge Sale of Furniture

TRY IT BEFORE YOU BUY IT

This Challenge Sale is conducted for the express purpose of proving to thousands of home makers that you can buy here for less money. And not until you have had **FOUR WEEKS' TRIAL** and are thoroughly satisfied that our values and qualities are beyond all comparison do we want you to buy it. It's the fairest, squarest, most equitable plan of buying Furniture in the country.

There is no better way to furnish your home than by this liberal "you be the judge" plan. And as to prices, there are no better values in the world than these Challenge Sale values.

NO FIRST PAYMENT NECESSARY, EITHER.

Oak Chiffon-robe, \$19.50

50c Weekly Payments

A handy article of furniture for bachelor or housewife. It is equipped with six hangers for as many suits of clothes. Features cupboard for collars, hats, etc., and 3 commodious drawers.

Try It Before You Buy It

This Handsome Brass Bed Outfit, 3 pcs. . . \$16.85

50c Weekly Payments

An outfit that you'll derive lasting satisfaction from. The bed is GUARANTEED against tarnishing for TEN YEARS. It has 2-inch continuous posts and large rollers. A GUARANTEED Home link spring and a soft-top mattress complete the outfit.

Try It In Your Home 4 Weeks

A Metal Bed Outfit for . . . \$12.45

50c a Week Will Pay for It

A new and popular design. Made of finest malleable iron with 2-inch continuous posts and artistic inner rods. A warranted steel spring and soft-top mattress complete the outfit.

Try It Before You Buy It

This Acid-Proof BRASS BED . . \$16.50

50c Weekly Payments.

A popular seller and one that has always given satisfactory service to our patrons. Made with sturdy two-inch continuous posts and 14 all-brass inner rods.

Try It Before You Buy It.

This DAVENPORT FOLDING BED, \$11.75

50c Weekly Payments.

Frame is of oak, sturdily put together. Covering is of best quality Imperial leather. It can be quickly and easily changed into a comfortable full-size bed if desired.

Try It Before You Buy It.

All-Brass Twin Beds, Each \$11.45

(Try Them First)

Guaranteed against tarnishing for TEN YEARS. Two-inch continuous posts and strong inner rods.

50c Weekly

Five-Piece Parlor Suite, \$21.50

50c Weekly Payments.

A Parlor Suite to be proud of. Sofa, rocker and three chairs are just like the picture. Mahogany-finish frames and verona coverings.

Try It Before You Buy It.

SKIPMOBILE 89c

Made of Hardwood. Like Picture.

A splendid exerciser for boys and girls.

FLOOR COVERING CHALLENGE SALE

FOUR WEEKS' TRIAL—NO CASH PAYMENT

\$3.50 Jap Matting Rugs, \$1.79

9x12 feet (room size); made from long, clean straw, and stenciled in various striking floral and oriental effects. A popular floor covering for the summer months.

\$7.50 Wool Fiber Rugs, \$4.67

(25c Weekly Payments.)

9x12 feet (room size); an unusually good rug, woven from a combination of wool and fiber. The result is a floor covering of lasting durability and beauty. Various designs in reversible colors.

69c LINOLEUM REMNANTS . . 28c

The Genuine Cook's Cork Linoleum—NOT OILCLOTH. Lengths are suitable for halls, kitchens, vestibules, etc. Tile, parquet and conventional designs. SQUARE YARD, 25c. Please bring exact measurements.

20-Yard Rolls of Jap MATTING \$4.39

(25c a Week.)

Sufficient for a large size room, at a price less than you'd pay elsewhere for an ordinary rug. 20-yard and very durable. Regularly sold at \$7.00 a roll.

\$1.50 Wool-Fiber or All-Fiber Rugs, 95c

Size 30x63. You can purchase one or more of these cool, sanitary rugs with the satisfaction of knowing that they are the best on the market, and that you are getting the most for your money. They can be easily washed when need be.

30c China Matting, 19c Yard

A matting imported direct by us from the heart of the matting industry. This is the best Cochin straw, long, sweet and clean, woven into delightfully new and pleasing designs in various colors.

Dining Table, \$7.25

25c a week.

Or solid oak, with pedestal base and handsome claw feet. (Try It Before You Buy It.)

Baby Coach, \$11.85

50c a week.

Full feed body and adjustable base and handsome claw feet. (Try It Before You Buy It.)

No Cash Payment. 10 Days' Free Trial

This Columbia Eclipse Grafonola \$20.00

For . . . \$20.00

50c a Week

A superb member of the Grafonola family, increased in selected, beautiful quarter-sawn oak. Plays three disc records with one winding and has the musical quality that only COLUMBIA features unite to produce. Will also play Victor records.

Try It Before You Buy It.

Four Refrigerators of Merit

No Cash Payment. and Four Weeks' FREE Trial, Too

\$19.50

\$29.85

\$11.85

\$19.75

Four challenge sale values that we defy any other store to equal. The construction is the best. Each model is packed with airproof charcoal sheathing and warranted to keep your food sweet and clean as it should do. DRIP PAN FREE.

Folding Go-Cart \$3.25

A dandy little cart which will prove one of the best investments you ever made. Folds up compactly when not in use.

25c Weekly Payments.

FREE

This beautiful 23-piece Dinner Set will be presented ABSOLUTELY FREE to each customer purchasing goods in our furniture department amounting to \$25.

FREE

A Handsome Dinner Set of 42 pieces will be given away ABSOLUTELY FREE to each customer purchasing furniture to the amount of \$50.00 or over.

Porch Rocker \$1.69

Hardwood frame, slat back and 4 double-woven cane seat. A strong, comfortable rocker of the highest character.

Steel Frame Lawn Bench, \$3.25

25c Weekly Payments.

Hardwood slat seat and back, fastened to stout steel frame with bolts. The kind of a bench to give lasting satisfaction.

A Most Convenient Thing—An Account at HECHT'S

Seventh Street

Full Size Couch \$6.75

Oak frame and Imperial leather covering; full spring body.

25c a Week