

**Cy Whittaker's Place**  
By JOSEPH C. LINCOLN  
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**SYNOPSIS.**  
Congressman Heman Atkins wants to buy Cy Whittaker's place. Cy unexpectedly returns to his boyhood home. Every one in Bayport venerates and fears Atkins except Cy. Atkins opposes the selection of Miss Phoebe Daves as teacher. Cy champions Phoebe Daves against Atkins, and she is elected teacher. Cy engages Mrs. Beasley, housekeeper. Cy discharges Mrs. Beasley. Emily Richards Thomas, aged eight, arrives at Cy's place. She is an orphan and has come to live with him, although he did not invite her to do so. Cy is furious, but he grows fond of her and keeps her. He nicknames her "Boon", and she learns to love him. Miss Phoebe Daves and Captain Cy save Emily from an ugly cow. The captain admires the teacher.

Cy, to help Phoebe, decides to run as a candidate for membership on the school committee. Captain Cy invites Congressman Atkins to Emily's birthday party, and the lawyer decides to accept. Congressman Atkins gets a severe shock when he learns the last name and identity of the girl Emily, a mysterious stranger arrives at Cy Whittaker's place. The stranger attacks Miss Phoebe, and Captain Cy rescues her after a scene of considerable violence. A tempestuous town meeting occurs. Congressman Atkins makes the mysterious stranger his friend. The latter turns out to be a drunkard, one Thomas, who is the father of little Emily. Captain Cy is defeated for school commissioner. A fight occurs between Captain Cy and Thomas. Legal troubles arise over Captain Cy's guardianship of Emily. Miss Phoebe visits the Widow Beasley. Phoebe investigates some matters pertaining to the past. Captain Cy goes to Washington regarding serious matters affecting Congressman Atkins. Captain Cy interviews Congressman Evergreen and makes amazing discoveries affecting the honesty of Atkins. Captain Cy confronts Atkins. Atkins confesses that he has robbed little Emily of thousands of dollars. Captain Cy returns home. Atkins capitulates to Captain Cy. Atkins, repentant, causes the scoundrel Thomas to depart from Bayport forever. Cy Whittaker and Miss Phoebe come to understand that they love one another, and little Emily and the happy couple dwell together in happiness.

**CHAPTER XV.**  
**M**RS. BANGS, said the schoolmistress as if it was the most casual thing in the world, "I want to borrow your husband tomorrow. I want him all day, too, because I'm thinking of driving over to Trumet, and I need a coachman. You'll go, won't you, Mr. Bangs?" Bailey, who had been considering the advisability of asking for a second cup of tea, brightened up and looked pleased. "Why, yes," he answered, "I'll go."

Mrs. Tripp ventured a hinted question concerning the teacher's errand at Trumet. The reply being noncommittal, the widow cheerfully prophesied that she guessed 'twas going to rain or snow next day. "It's about time for the line storm," she added. But it did not storm, although a brisk cold; it was blowing when after breakfast next morning the "horse and team," with Bailey in his Sunday suit and overcoat and Miss Daves on the buggy sent beside him, turned out of the boarding house yard and started on the twelve mile journey to Trumet.

In Trumet Center, which is not much of a center, Miss Daves alighted from the buggy and entered a building bearing a sign with the words "Metropolitan Variety Store, Joshua Atwood, Prop'r, Groceries, Coal, Dry Goods, Insurance, Boots and Shoes, Garden Seeds, Etc." A smaller sign beneath this was lettered "Justice of the Peace" and one below that read "Post-office."

cupied for some time. However, the blinds were now open, and a few fowls about the back door seemed to promise that some one was living there. The wooden letter box by the gate had a name stenciled upon it. Miss Daves sprang from the buggy and looked at the box. "Yes," she said, "this is the place. Will you come in, Mr. Bangs? You can put your horse in that barn, I'm sure, if you want to."

But Bailey declined to go in. He declared he was going on to the blacksmith's shop to have that wheel fixed. He would not feel safe to start for home with it as it was. He drove off, and Miss Daves, knowing from life-long experience that front doors are merely for show, passed around the main body of the house and rapped on the door in the ell. The rap was not answered, though she could hear some one moving about within and a shrill voice singing "The Sweet By and By."

"How-row d'ye do, Mrs. Beasley?" ent. But, consider' that I got this horn from Mr. Bangs, I'm willin' to let bygone be past. It helps my hearin' a lot. Them ear fixin's was good while they lasted, but they got out of kilter quick. I shan't bother Mr. Bangs. If he can square his own conscience I'm satisfied."

Immigration into this country is being more closely restricted. From July 1 to February 1, last, 532,484 aliens were admitted, but 12,006 "undesirables" were barred out, and 1420 previously admitted were returned because they proved not desirable.

Miss Daves had risen and was peering out of the window. "I was looking to see if my driver was anywhere about," she replied. "I thought perhaps he would drive over to Mrs. Atwood's and get the diary for you. But I don't see him."

"Drive-drive nothin'! The blacksmith's out and won't be back for another hour. His boy's there, but he's a big enough lunkhead to try ballin' out a dory with a fork, and that buggy axle is bent so it's simply got to be fixed. I'd no more go home to Keturah with that buggy as 'tis than I'd—Oh, my land of love!"

"How-row d'ye do, Mrs. Beasley?" faltered Mr. Bangs. "I hope you're smart."

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**MISCELLANEOUS.**



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