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All Business Entrusted to our Care will Receive Prompt and Careful Attention.  
**V. L. HIGHLAND, Pres. - E. B. DEISON, Cashier**

**THE WEAPON OF DAVID**

(Original)  
"Goin' to send yer boy to college Jabez?"

"You bet."  
"What ye goin' to do that for? He won't earn nothin' except how to play games. Them athletics takes all the students' time nowadays."

"There are wus things 'n' athletics. Seems to me I'd ruther have my boy git strong than git 'arnin', though they're both good. I knowed a feller onct that got his start in the world from baseball practice. While he was in college he kep' up his 'arnin', but kep' up the athletics too. When he got out into the world he found himself in a fix where the 'arnin' wouldn't 'a' been no use without the athletics."

"This was the way of it:  
"When I lived out in Nevada it was a mighty rough country. Gambin' an' minin' was the two perfections. gambin' bein' considered the more respectable of the two. There was two or three lawyers, doctors an' such like in the place an' a few editors. Mike Gallagher was runnin' the Diamond Drill newspaper an' tryin' to establish it by a fearless course. He was always attackin' the worthless, an' this way he got the support of the thrifty. But he had to do a good deal of fightin' an' wouldn't have nobody in his employ that couldn't shoot. One day a young man just out of college came along and asked for a position."

"Young man," said Gallagher, the position are all vacant just now. The managing editor was killed last week, an' the local 'will be buried tomorrow. For the next few weeks there'll be pretty hot work for any one that takes hold on the paper, for we're bound to run the men that shot 'em out of 'e town. Can you shoot?"

"No," said the young feller. "I never had any practice."  
"Well, then, I reckon I'll have to give the position to the next applicant."

"The young feller thought a spell, then he said: 'I can throw straight enough. I was pitcher for the university team and was counted the best pitcher the nine ever had.'"

"The young man had the education, though the next applicant knew how to 'fan the hammer' and all quick shootin' tricks, but 'arnin' was out of his line. Gallagher tuk the college man and set him to work at onct."

"The next mornin' there was a sizelin' article referin' to a certain man who had shot the local editor, goin' over his past history like a harrow over a field. Blackleg, vagabond, drunkard, murderer, was the terms used. Soon as the feller saw the article he went to the Drill office, climbed the stairs, and the first thing the new employe saw was the muzzle of a cocked revolver comin' through the door. The next thing was an arm and the next a man's body. Of course they was comin' mighty quick, but not too quick for the editor. He caught up an iron inkstand and, just as the man's face showed within the door, let fly, takin' him plumb in the temple."

"Well, the next mornin' there was an obituary in the paper recountin' the circumstance and warnin' the man who had killed the managin' editor that enough of his record was known at the Drill office to land him in jail. When the new editor met him on the street that afternoon the feller was a-comin' out of the Metropolitan gambin' saloon with two revolvers strapped to his hips. The editor had his pockets full of stones and, seein' his enemy reachin' for his gun, got out a two pounder rock and landed it in the middle of his forehead. The feller dropped like lead, but got off with concussion of the brain. When he got well he was warned by the committee to light out, and he lit."

"But the end hadn't come yet. The toughs didn't like the idea of a new feller comin' in with what they considered a barbarous way of fightin', so one of 'em—the meanest, low lived cuss in the territory—gave out that he was goin' to down the editor with the old fashioned weapon—the revolver. The next day the newspaper man was walkin' along the street when he heard a sharp cry, 'Look out!' He had to do a pretty quick job of thinkin', which was this way: Not seein' an enemy in front, he concluded there was one behind and a bullet was comin' right off. He wheeled like a dash, takin' a stone from his pocket as he turned, got his eye on a man bringin' a revolver to bear on him and put a stone right agin the weapon, knockin' it twenty feet away. Before the feller could draw agin the editor sent another stone that broke his jaw. This epied the scrimmage."

"The fact that the editor set an example of goin' about unarmed—stones wasn't considered arms—had a fine effect on the community. The best citizens declared that carryin' of weapons wasn't necessary or civilized, and the committee posted a notice for all to disarm. Any man that was caught with weapons on him would be shot down in his tracks. The Diamond Drill's circulation increased, and as the town became safe and respectable traders came in and advertisements flooded the paper."

"That was the way the young graduate got his start in life, and I reckon that when a man has got his start the better his education the more fitted he is to occupy important positions. The youngster became part owner of the paper, and when the territory was admitted as a state he went to congress. The reason why I've told the story without bringin' in his name is that he's got his eye on a bigger thing still, and he don't like in these civilized days to have it brought up that he ever killed any one."

**THOMAS BARBER JUDSON.**  
**THE SACRED BEETLE.**

Beliefs of a Venerable Religion in Ancient Egypt.  
Scarabs, which tourists and collectors often bring back from Egypt, are something more than mere curiosities. Their extreme antiquity alone would

entitle them to peculiar veneration, because they first came into vogue between 4,000 and 5,000 years ago. But they are symbols of a religious faith which influenced human sentiment for a longer period than has elapsed since the foundation of Christianity.  
In "The Records of the Past" C. De W. Brower mentions a gold foil impression of one of these sacred emblems that is supposed to date back to King Menes (about 4777 B. C.), but this may be a forgery. No doubt is expressed as to the genuineness of those which are assigned to the days of Cheops, the great builder of pyramids (2910 B. C.) and Nebkara, first king of the third dynasty (4212 B. C.). With a varying degree of popularity the scarab continued in use until the Persian period (500 B. C.), so that its sway extended over an interval of something like 3,500 years.

The beetle, of which a scarab is a representation, stood for immortality, as do the egg and butterfly today. The Egyptian word for that insect means "in the process of coming into existence" or "self generated." This it came also to indicate the sun god and was associated with one of the dominant forms of worship in ancient times. The inanimate image of the beetle was worn during life as an amulet, on account of its supposed power of protecting its owner from peril, and at his death was entombed with him. Sometimes it was incased in the mummy wrappings, sometimes it was hung from a necklace and sometimes it was put in place of the heart, which the embalmer would remove.

Scarabs were made out of a variety of materials. The cheaper forms were molded out of clay and then glazed. Others were cut from limestone and stained. The substance and finish are often an indication of the age to which a specimen belongs. Such costly stones as the garnet, carnelian, jasper and amethyst were sometimes used, and at a later period gold. The vast majority were not over half or three-quarters of an inch long, but a few were much larger. They were invariably perforated lengthwise. Among the ornaments buried with Queen Anhotep of the seventeenth dynasty was a huge flexible gold necklace, with a scarab pendant, incrustated with blue glass paste and having rays of gold projecting.

Upon these strange objects were inscriptions of different kinds. Some were the special symbols of kings or other distinguished owners; some were the emblems of deities; some were pious phrases or mottoes. Pictures of more or less historical significance were carved there occasionally. In addition to these markings, there was usually more or less decoration—zigzag lines, scrollwork or even more elaborate designs.

**LINCOLN'S POETRY.**  
Verses That Were Brought to Light Only to Be Destroyed.

It is a sentimental habit of speech to regret the "songs never sung." Yet the dispassionate critic knows there is quite enough poetry unless it is of the very best. He has no tears for "mute, lugubrious Miltons." But there is no true American who would not pay a price for a certain batch of poems probably long ago destroyed.  
Gibson William Harris, who was a law student in Lincoln & Herndon's office from 1845 to 1847, has written for the Woman's Home Companion some of his recollections of Abraham Lincoln. In putting the office in order one morning he came upon two or three quires of letter paper stitched together inside a desk. He turned the leaves and found that they were covered with stanzas in Mr. Lincoln's neat running hand.

When Mr. Lincoln came in, the young man took the manuscript out of the desk again and held it up with the unnecessary and impertinent inquiry whether the poems were his.

"Where did you find it?" asked Mr. Lincoln.  
He took the manuscript, rolled it up and stuffed it into his pocket. It was never seen again. The theory of the writer who tells the story is that it was taken home and put into the fire.

**Sample.**  
"George didn't keep his engagement with me last night," said the girl who was betrothed to him.  
"I'd give him a piece of my mind," said her mother.  
"Just a little sample of married life," suggested the father—Cleveland Leader.

**Widely Read.**  
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