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The Times' Daily Short Story.

How He Got His Commission

[Original.]

Major Alan Wharton commanded a four company post in what was then the far west. One evening he directed his orderly to tell Sergeant Willard Farnum to report at headquarters equipped for a day's ride. When Farnum reported he saluted and stood at attention while the major went to the door, closed it and, returning to his seat, said in a low tone:

"Sergeant, the paymaster has been here today and left money to pay B company, which is out, as you know, at the forks of the rivers. I don't like keeping other men's money. Besides, some of them want their funds, though I don't see any way to spend it out there. I can't spare a guard, so I have concluded to send you with it. I hope you'll get it through safely."

Sergeant Farnum was one of those few educated young men who at that time entered the ranks for a commission. There are more of them now that commissions are more plentiful. The major gave him the money in a leather belt, which he strapped about his waist. His cavalry jacket did not reach low enough to hide it, and as he walked across the parade it occurred to him that he was exposing it dangerously to view, so he unstrapped it and put it in his pocket. Mounting, he rode out, only halting to ask a scout named McKenna the way to the forks. The full moon was rising as the sun set, and the messenger had a prospect for a fine night's ride. He must go through a hostile Indian country, but scouts had reported that no Indians were there. It did not take him long to find out that either he had mistaken McKenna's instructions or he had been purposely put on the wrong road. He could see no object in being misdirected, so he inferred the former. He had ridden to the east of a range of hills when he should have gone to the west of them. Retracing his steps, he turned at a point not half a mile from the fort and took the western course.

He had not ridden another mile before, while passing through some low brush, an Indian suddenly rose up before him. Farnum brought his carbine to an aim and called on the redskin to surrender. Meanwhile the sergeant felt a grip from behind and was dragged from his horse by another redskin. The first came up, and the two went through his clothes, finding the money belt in his pocket. They danced about joyfully, one of them chattering to the other in their native tongue. Then, taking Farnum's carbine and pistol, they made off.

When Farnum considered his position he was in despair. There was not one chance in a dozen that any one would believe that he had been robbed by Indians. In the first place, it was not supposed there were any Indians so near the fort, and, in the second, Indians would have been more interested in his scalp than his money. Surely his story would be regarded as decidedly thin.

There was nothing to be done except ride back, report the loss and take the consequences. Major Wharton listened to his story in amazement, then ordered him under arrest. In the guardhouse he had nothing to do but think, and the result of his thinking was to send, through the sergeant of the guard, a request for an interview with Major Wharton. What passed at the meeting was known to no one, for the major talked with Farnum in his private apartment.

Shortly after this Major Wharton sent for the scout who had directed Farnum and said to him:

"I consider myself responsible for the loss of B company's pay and shall send all I receive from the paymaster to reimburse them. I want you to take it. I'm going to send my orderly with you, so that if anything happens one can confirm the other's story."

The two men left about dusk, intending to go through, as Farnum had intended, by night. When they arrived at the identical spot where the sergeant had been set upon they were surrounded by Indians and robbed. They started back to the fort, but when the Indians were out of sight turned and moved southward. They had not gone far before they ran into half a dozen cavalrymen from the fort. Reporting the loss, they went back with the troopers. On arriving they were making their way to the commandant's headquarters when they were arrested and taken to the guardhouse. In the morning they were sent to Major Wharton and there found Farnum. The major addressed them:

"You two are guilty of the worst piece of rascality that has ever come under my personal notice. Last night you were robbed by Indians, who found on you not only the money I sent by you, but that sent by Sergeant Farnum. He suspected that you, orderly, had seen his money belt and that you, McKenna, knowing of the paymaster's visit, had suspected he carried funds to B company. You sent him astray to gain time, and you two, disguised as Indians, robbed him. McKenna carrying out the deception with what he knows of the Indian tongue. To you, Farnum, I am indebted for thinking the matter out and concocting this plan for proving the facts and regaining the money. You have made an efficient Indian chief and acquitted yourself so well that I recommend you for a commission. Meanwhile take two good men and carry the money where it belongs. March these rascals back to the guardhouse."

This happened years ago. Colonel Willard Farnum is now a retired officer. During his whole term of service he was spoken of as the Indian chief who got his commission by robbing a scout and his commander's orderly.

MORRIS WYNNE.

Weak Lungs

It is the old story of a weak throat, a tendency to weak lungs in the family. You no sooner get rid of your old cold than a new one takes its place. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral breaks up this taking-cold habit. It strengthens, heals. Ask your doctor, the very next time you see him, what he thinks of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for weak lungs. We have no secrets! We publish the formulas of all our medicines. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

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EARTHQUAKE BABIES UNDER CLOSE WATCH.

Physicians Are to Follow Their Development to Trace the Result of Prenatal Influence.

San Francisco, Cal., May 11.—All the babies, numbering some half a hundred, born in the improvised camps in Golden Gate Park and on the Mission hills while San Francisco burned, have been carefully listed by a coterie of physicians and scientists, and the development of the character of each is to be carefully watched for the effects of prenatal influence.

"We have the names and probable addresses of all the parents," said a prominent physician a few days ago, "and we expect interesting things when the little fellows begin to develop individuality. The shock of the terrible earthquake and the great fire that followed, will surely, through its effect upon the mother at the time, have some peculiar effect upon the child.

"I personally know of a youngster whose mother, previous to his birth, went through three fires, the hotel and boarding houses in which she lived burning out. When the little fellow came to this world he was a natural born incendiary, and his first act as a toddler was to set fire to the house. Repeatedly he dragged out clothes into the yard and set them on fire, and he contrived to make bonfires in the attic twice. At the age of 7 he is still setting fires—a natural born 'firebug.'"

'FRISCO SHORT OF FUEL.

Food for 300,000 Is Still Cooked in the Streets.

Washington, May 11.—The following has been received from Major General Greely at San Francisco:

"While conditions improve slightly, the miserable situation may be indicated by the statement that all food for 300,000 people in San Francisco is yet necessarily cooked on the public streets. Difficulties about fuel arising, but the courage of everyone continues wonderfully good. Neither drunkenness nor disorder anywhere evident except occasionally from adjacent towns where local saloons are open. Mayor Schmitz still adverse to closed saloons, which have been constantly urged by me. The Red Cross finance committee, Dr. Devine and myself concurring.

"Free food will be issued after Sunday next only on alternate days, except in camp under strictly military control. Red Cross agents to be present on alternate days of noon issue to provide for exceptional cases of need that may arise. Average issue San Francisco, Oakland and elsewhere still exceeds quarter million a day. Every possible method by questioning, exclusion and otherwise being made to reduce food issue. Prospects now look to steady decreasing demands for food. Of course, extreme destitution and much suffering occurs on the part of many people who resort to charity only in extreme cases. Altogether am encouraged."

Nebraska Earthquake.

Chicago, May 11.—A despatch to the Inter-Ocean from Cody, Neb., says:

At 6.25 o'clock last night an earthquake shock lasting nearly one minute passed through the Elkhorn valley, the earth seeming to move north and south. No damage is reported from the various towns which have telephoned in the news. Towns in all directions for a radius of sixty miles have reported feeling the shock.

DOWIE GETS CONCESSION.

Obtains Representation in Control of Zion City.

Chicago, May 11.—John Alexander Dowie and Wilbur G. Voliva reached an agreement in court yesterday upon the proposition for mutual representation in the management of financial affairs at Zion City.

The Dowie forces appointed John A. Lewis, while Voliva named Alexander Granger. The third member of the committee is still to be chosen.

NOURISH

the body, don't dose it with medicine. Scott's Emulsion is the best nourishment in existence. It is more than a food; you may doubt it, but it digests perfectly easy and at the same time gets the digestive functions in a condition so that ordinary food can be easily digested. Try it if you are run down and your food doesn't nourish you.

SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl Street, New York.

IN BLOCKS OF TEN

Members of Massachusetts Legislature Thus Appear

BEFORE THE GRAND JURY

Lawmakers Go to Court House in Squads to Save Interrupting Legislative Sessions—Investigation Is Slow.

Boston, May 11.—The Suffolk County [illegible] was a place of activity yesterday when some seventy-five members of the Legislature appeared in answer to summonses by District Attorney Moran calling upon them to testify before the grand jury on the subject of bribery charges growing out of the "bucket shop" bill. The unprecedented proceeding of the entire membership of the Massachusetts legislature being directed to appear before the grand jury attracted a large crowd to the court building. Seventy-five members of the House, the names being selected alphabetically, had been summonsed to appear yesterday. As these legislators were making their way to the courthouse process servers armed with summonses had started for the State House and other places to deliver papers to the remaining members of the House and Senate.

Speaker John N. Cole, of the House, was one of the early callers at the county court house. Thomas W. Lawson, who made general charges against the Legislature, and who suggested that the district attorney summon that body, was also on hand early in the day, and he was in conference with Mr. Moran. After his talk with Mr. Lawson, District Attorney Moran had a conference with Speaker Cole, as a result of which it was decided that the representatives summoned would not be called before the grand jury until later in the day.

It was decided to have the representatives proceed from the state house to the district attorney's office in groups of ten, this method of examination being decided upon in order that the business of the legislature might not be interrupted.

FOR PSYICHCAL RESEARCH.

An Institution to Be Established in This Country.

New York, May 11.—The Times of this city says:

An institution on the lines of the Institute General Psychologique is to be established in this country for psychical research. The French government has provided about $80,000 for it. With the establishment of the new institute, the one of which the late Dr. Richard Hodgson was the secretary, and which was a branch of the English society, will go out of existence. Dr. James H. Hyslop, who was formerly connected with the Columbia university, will be the leading spirit in the undertaking. According to Dr. Hyslop the trustees of the new institute will include Rev. Dr. Minot J. Savage, Rev. Dr. Heber Newton and Professor Putnam of Harvard. Dr. Hyslop says the investigations of the new institute will be pushed along "remedial lines," as well as towards discoveries. It is, for example, the purpose of the projectors to visit and examine the blind, the deaf, the dumb and the insane. It is proposed to inquire how, for example, persons who have always been blind obtain impressions of color. Regarding insane persons, the newer psychologists think they can be of great service by working in conjunction with alienists. The investigators will also examine alcoholic patients to determine, if they can, why men who don't want to drink fall victims again and again. Also they will try to find why some men remember what happens while they are intoxicated and why some do not.

MIGHT INDUCE GIRLS TO WED OLD PROFESSORS

Trustees of Carnegie Pension Fund Scent Danger, and Plan to Head It Off.

New Orleans, La., May 11.—At a recent meeting of the trustees of the Andrew Carnegie pension fund for aged teachers and professors there was a discussion as to the danger of young women marrying aged professors in order to secure pensions at death.

After it had been decided to give widows of professors half the pensions to which their husbands had been entitled, Mr. Hadley of Yale asked whether this would not encourage girls to marry aged college men, and among the preventives proposed was that the widow must have been married to the teacher 10 years prior to his death to secure the pension. Another was that the widow must be at least 40 years old.

Half a day was taken up in the discussion, and finally the question was postponed until the next meeting of the board.

NOT 'CLUB MAD.'

Mrs. MacMillan Pay High Tribute to Women of Southern States.

Chicago, Ill., May 11.—"The women of the South never have become 'club mad,' but their interest in clubs is strong and it is growing all the time. The Tennessee State Federation represents 2,400 women, and I do not believe I exaggerate when I say all these 2,400 women are active, useful members."

Thus spoke Mrs. Benton MacMillan of Tennessee, recently elected president of the federation of clubs in that state, who is here on a visit to her sister, Mrs. Elinor Foster-Comyns. She is the wife of former Gov. Benton MacMillan.

"I think one reason that our clubs have prospered is because they are altruistic in their nature," she added. "The clubwomen of our state care for the beautiful things of art and literature and music, but with all their study and their progress in culture, they make their clubs of use.

"We have two important bills to bring before the Legislature. One is for compulsory education and the other for the passage of a state library law. For a number of years the need of these laws has been recognized, but it has been left for the clubwomen to have them passed.

"Another work in which I am greatly interested is that of the travelling art galleries. The travelling libraries have proved their worth, and I am sure the art galleries would do the same. Into the isolated regions where the mountaineers live we have sent women who have been teachers, not only of the things which are in books, but of the things which the men and women should know for their physical well being and prosperity."

A RELIGIOUS CONFERENCE.

It Will Be Held at Montpelier May 13-15—The Speakers.

Montpelier, May 11.—An important conference of Christian workers will begin here next Sunday, continuing through the day, all day Monday, and closing Tuesday morning. The subject will be "Aggressive Evangelism."

The Rev. T. F. Henderson, of New York City, general field secretary, will be present, and other speakers will be Presiding Elder W. M. Newton, of South Royalton, and Presiding Elder P. W. Lewis and the Rev. J. M. Frost, of St. Johnsbury.

Young Girls

Many a girl who graduates from high school or female college with a brilliant record and high standing is broken down before she is twenty.

Nowadays girls are pushed to the limit of their endurance both in school and society. They must make a success—even if they are forever unfitted for the larger school of life and debarred from the happiness of motherhood.

At this time of life, when just entering upon womanhood, nature makes heavy drains upon the vitality, especially at each monthly period,

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

the most wonderful of all tonic restorative medicines for women, will tide a young girl over this trying time and bring her safely into strong, noble, beautiful womanhood.

Experience of a Beautiful High School Girl

Her First Letter.

MY DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I write to see if you can suggest some means to cure me. A little more than a year ago I was unwell for the first time, and since then I have been sick all the time in some way or other and suffered with painful and irregular periods. I went to a summer resort for my health and was doctored all summer, but to no effect. I have not been unwell for two months and thought I would see if you could do me any good. I attend High School and would not like to miss any time if it is possible. MARION BARBER, North Adams, Mass.

Miss Barber writes again after two years

MY DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Some time ago I wrote to you for advice, being troubled with irregular and painful periods and female troubles. I began taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Liver Pills and using the Sanative Wash, and I am glad to say I am completely cured and have not had any sickness since. I wish to thank you for your kind advice and shall recommend your medicine to my girl friends. MARION BARBER, 101 Brazewell Ave., North Adams, Mass.

Free Advice for Young Girls

All young girls are earnestly urged to write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., for advice. Mrs. Pinkham is daughter-in-law of Lydia E. Pinkham, and for twenty-five years under her direction, and since her decease, she has been advising sick women free of charge. Thousands of women are well, strong and beautiful to-day because they made a confidant of Mrs. Pinkham and followed her instructions at this critical time of their lives.

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Sent by mail, postage paid, anywhere in the world, for this coupon and eighty-nine cents, P. O. or express money order, by the Excelsior Mfg. Co., 172 Washington St., Boston, Mass. TAKE OR SEND THIS COUPON NOW.

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Beauty is the external proof of health; with failing health comes failing beauty. Woman's delicate organism is frequently over-taxed by arduous [illegible] duties, and the demands of society. The constant drain upon her vitality weakens her nervous system. The penalty is a tired, worn-out, exhausted condition which destroys her appetite, robs her of rest, and at intervals causes much suffering and distress. When these conditions exist, the weakened nerves must be strengthened. Dr. Miles' Nervine will do this. It stimulates the action of all the organs, brings refreshing sleep, and drives away that look of care.

"I have taken Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine for years, as did my mother before me. Whenever I feel tired, worn-out, or have headache, I always take the Nervine and it strengthens me. I consider it a great remedy for nervousness or debility." MRS. C. L. FREDERICK, Canton, Ohio.

Dr. Miles' Nervine is sold by your druggist, who will guarantee that the first bottle will benefit. If it fails, he will refund your money.

Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind

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