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THE JUNIOR AMERICAN



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The Junior American



The Boys of Today are the Men of Tomorrow

Vol. 1.

Bristol, Ind., March 1910

No. 2

The Last Panther

H. V. SCHOONOVER



ABOUT twenty years ago two boys, John and George Smith, rode down a lane leading from a little village in central Illinois. They had with them a dog and a gun. A fine mist drifting among the trees made the night an ideal one for their purpose—a coon hunt. The boys rode down the bluff and turned thru a gate into the bottom. They had gone forward some distance when the dog, which had been hunting on ahead, came running back to them, growling and with bristles erect, yet showing every sign of fear. The boys were probably no braver than the average boy of sixteen, but they were on horse back. Moreover, there had been no dangerous animals in that part of the country for a long time.

"What's the matter with the dog?" said George. "I never saw him act that way before."

"I don't know," answered John nervously. "Sic 'em, Jack," he called to the dog softly. "Good boy. Sic 'em." But the dog refused to get in advance of the horses. The boys moved forward slowly. The horses seemed afraid and snorted uneasily. They came at last to a large tree that had been up-rooted by the wind. From under this and almost under the noses of the horses, sprang a large cat-like animal. The boys had no desire to see any more; nor could they have stayed if they had wanted to, for the horses whirled and went tearing thru the woods toward home. The boys bent low over their saddles and gave the horses free rein. That they escaped being torn

from their saddles by the low limbs, was more a matter of good luck than good judgment.

"Look out for the gate," called George who remembered that he had shut it.

"Never mind the gate. I'll get it open," said John who was riding a few steps in advance. The gate, a board affair, went down with a crash, as John rode his horse into it.

"It must have been a panther," said George as they gained the high ground and pulled the horses down to a walk. "You've heard father say he saw one when he was a boy."

"Yes, but he will not believe we saw one," John answered.

"We don't need to say anything about it," George replied. "We will get some of the boys and go again to-morrow night."

On the next night several of the boys, armed with a muzzle-loading shot gun, started once more for the bottom. The dog and the horses had been left behind. A new moon shone thru the trees, but it was not possible to distinguish objects clearly more than a few yards away. As they approached the fallen tree, John stepped boldly forward, struck a match, and applied it to the torch which he held in his hand. The torch refused to ignite. By the feeble rays of the match, however, they saw the panther lying where it had been the night before. As the match died away, John struck

another; but one of the boys stepped forward and jerked him back just as George thrust the gun forward. There was no report. The beast sprang into the forest and disappeared. With the aid of another match they found that the gun was not loaded. There was nothing to do but go home, and they went at once.

The boys were not able to keep their secret this time, and on the following night a large party of men and boys were once more on their way to the fallen tree. As they approached the spot, the dogs made a wild rush thru the underbrush, and their barking told that they had some animal at bay. The men pushed forward rapidly, and there under the roots of the old tree they found the dogs barking at a skunk. But the panther was never seen again.

Founder of New York Ferry System.

Cornelius Dircksen was the first official ferryman on the island of Manhattan. The mooring place on the New York side was about where Water street crosses the present Peck slip. He started the system in 1637. Passengers who wanted to be rowed over blew a horn for the skipper, if he chanced to be absent when they arrived. From Dircksen's skiff grew the present ferry system of the city.

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A PERILOUS ADVENTURE



Written for The Junior American

BY

RAYMOND DULITZ

ON A SMALL clearing in a forest in the upper part of Maine stood a little one-story log cabin in which the Smith family lived. The family comprised the father and mother and two boys, John and William; John aged 15, and William aged 14. Mr. Smith was a woodcutter and made a comfortable living for himself and family. The nearest neighbor they had at that time, lived five miles thru the woods.

One cold winter evening, after the chores were done and the family was seated at the supper table, Mr. Smith said, "Boys, I have an important letter to be delivered, and I would like to have it delivered tonight. Now, which one of you will go?" It was agreed that both the boys should go, and so they put on their long, thick over-coats and tucked their mufflers around their chests. Their faithful shephard dog, "Prince" was allowed to accompany them.

The night was bitter cold and the snow lay in deep drifts around the house. So they set off. Will-

iam carried the lantern, and John had the precious letter in his pocket.

The post-office was seven miles from the Smith cottage and was reached by an old trail thru the woods. The boys reached the office in two hours and delivered the letter.

It had begun to snow a little and gradually increased as they retraced their steps homeward thru the woods. The snow began getting deeper and deeper and it also grew colder. Finally the snow got so deep, the boys could go no further. The cold raw wind cut their faces and they heartily wished they were back home once more.

Neither of the boys could think of any relief, until John whipped out his note-book, tore out a page of it, and with his pencil hastily scrawled these words, "Stuck in the snow. Come at once." He then called the dog, who was licking William's face, as he was almost overcome with the cold.

Quickly he tied the note around the good dog's neck with a piece of string which he happened to have in his pocket. After much trouble in getting him to understand what was wanted of him, he bounded off thru the snow towards their home.

The moments dragged slowly by and both the boys had fallen in a stupor from the cold. The snow was heaping itself higher and higher upon the boys when help arrived.

When the boys came to, they

found themselves being cared for in their own home. Their father having read the note around the dog's neck, immediately went to their help.

Much praise was given to the faithful dog, and the boys often think what would have become of them, alone in the woods, had it not been for the faithful dog "Prince."

TOM EMMERSON'S RETURN

F. Rychen Nicholson

IT WAS on a cold winter morning, when Billie Dick sat shivering, in his rags and old shoes, on the church steps, thinking of what the world had in store for him. He had not meditated long when the old sexton came to ring the bell, and warm the church for the coming people. The aged man approached him and said, "Good Morning, young man, what are you doing here?" "Well, Bill replied, I came here to sit down, thinking that perhaps I might find some one who would take me home with them to get warm." "Come along with me." He followed, and in a short time found himself beside a large furnace. Gee, that Bill, this is better than home. Home! Dare I think of home, flashed across his mind.

He was now left alone, while the old sexton rang the bells. The chimes seemed to cheer him up a bit, but there seemed to be an indescribable invitation in their

music. It seemed to be the one common to us all. It made him think of when he was home, when his good mother got him ready for Sunday School, and of many things concerning his home life. He had now got warm and hearing the people above him singing, he thot church was about to dismiss, so he decided to watch the people as they passed out. The doors were now open and the people began to come out. He had not stood there long when a lady and a gentleman seemed to be making their way towards him. A few words were exchanged, but enough was said for Billy Dick to have a home.

He walked home with them, and shortly after found himself all cleaned up, and in a fine new suit of clothes and new shoes. He was next taken to the sitting room to be questioned.

He was asked, "What is your name? How old are you? Have you a home anywhere else?" "Kind lady, I go by the name of Billie Dick, I am fourteen years old, and, a home, well I have a home somewhere, but I do not know where it is. I ran away from home when I was six years old—got lost, and was picked up by older boys, who cared for me until this morning, when thay left me. You see my home was in Greenville, and—

"Greenville!" Cried out both the old people, and you ran away from home eight years ago! Come

The JUNIOR AMERICAN

THE BOYS' MAGAZINE

BI-MONTHLY

Published the first of the month by

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Bristol, Ind.

F. R. Nicholson Ed. and Pub.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

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60 cents an inch; 12 lines to the inch.Terms: Cash with order.
Forms close 25th of preceding month.

Address all communications to

THE JUNIOR AMERICAN
BRISTOL, IND.

here in this room—I am almost certain that you are our son; Roll up your sleeves!"

Turning to the father she said, "You remember do you not, that there was a birth mark on his arm? On examination, the birth mark was found, where-upon they both declared in a loud voice. "You are truly our own son."

This was certainly a most happy day for them all. Ten years later found Tom Emmerson a very energetic young business man, instead of Billie Dick, the tramp.

Finis.

---NEWS NOTES---

On account of an unavoidable delay on our printer's part, this issue is being mailed late.

Our next issue, the "May-June" number promises to be the best yet. Same will be mailed about the 20th of May.

Kindly remember "The Junior American" is a bi-monthly publication and expect only an issue every other month.

Our object at all times will be to give you the best little magazine we can for the money.

A mistake was made in numbering the pages of this issue. Please excuse.

Get your friends to subscribe. Help a good thing along.—Boost.

KOMIC KORNER.

ST. PETER AND THE BROKER

This is going the rounds: A broker from the financial vortex sought admission at the pearly gates. "Who are you?" said Peter. "I am a Wall Street broker." "What do you want?" "I want to get in." "What have you done that entitles you to admission?" "Well, I saw a decrepit woman in Broadway the other day and gave her two cents." "Gabriel, is that on the records?" "Yes, St. Peter; it's marked down to his credit." "What else have you done?" "Well, I crossed the Brooklyn Bridge the other night and met a newsboy half frozen to death and gave him one cent." "Gabriel, is that on the records?" "Yes, St. Peter." "What else have you done?" "Well, I can't recollect anything just now." "Gabriel, what do you think we ought to do with this fellow?" "Oh, give him back his three cents and tell him to go to hell."

TAKE CARE.

You may keep your feet from slipping,
And your hands from evil deeds,
But to guard your tongue from tripping,
What unceasing care it needs!
Be you old or be you young,
Oh, beware,
Take good care,
Of the tittle-tattle, tell-tale tongue!

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LIFE.

Life is not living just for today;
Life is not dreaming all the short way.
To live is to do what must be done;
To work and be true, for work is soon done.
'Tis living for others, to lighten their load,
'Tis helping our brothers and trusting in God.

THE WAY TO WIN

"Strike" while the iron is heated,
 "Pause" and the iron is cold.
 If you strike too late on a hard-
 ened plate
 The weld will never hold.
 "Seek" and success will follow;
 "Wait" and it passes by.
 Be quick to grasp, then hold it fast
 And trust for a better try.



THE TARDY SCHOOLBOY.

BY EUGENE C. DOLSON.

I knew a boy who every day
 Came tardily to school.
 To hurry not,
 And worry not,
 Had always been his rule.
 This rule he followed later on,
 Without the least misgiving.
 He hurried not,
 And worried not—
 And hardly made a living.

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28

The Romans were the first to introduce a regular Copper Coinage.

28

An 1804 U. S. Silver Dollar sold recently at auction and brought eleven hundred dollars. There are but thirteen known to collectors.

28

U. S. large cents were first coined in 1793 and discontinued in 1815. The rarest being those of 1799.

28

The cent of 1877 is the rarest of the Bronze Cents. These are still found now and then in circulation.

28

A very rare U. S. half cent of 1842 in brilliant condition was sold in December last and brought one hundred and ten dollars.

28

Coin collecting is increasing with such rapidity that it will soon not be the piece, but the coin. In fact it is that way now with some varieties.

28

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BRISTOL, IND.

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FACTORY PRICES We furnish the highest grade bicycles it is possible to make at one small profit above actual factory cost. You save \$10 to \$25 middlemen's profits by buying direct of us and have the manufacturer's guarantee behind your bicycle. **DO NOT BUY** a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone at any price until you receive our catalogues and learn our unheard of factory prices and remarkable special offers to rider agents.

YOU WILL BE ASTONISHED when you receive our beautiful catalogue and study our superb models at the *wonderfully low prices* we can make you this year. We sell the highest grade bicycles for less money than any other factory. We are satisfied with \$1.00 profit above factory cost. **BIKE DEALERS**, you can sell our bicycles under your own name plate at our prices. Orders filled the day received.

SECOND HAND BICYCLES. We do not regularly handle second hand bicycles, but usually have a number on hand taken in trade by our Chicago retail stores. These we clear out promptly at prices ranging from \$3 to \$3 or \$10. Descriptive bargain lists mailed free.

COASTER-BRAKES, single wheels, imported roller chains and pedals, parts, repairs and equipment of all kinds at *half the usual retail prices.*

\$8.50 HEDGETHORN PUNCTURE-PROOF \$4.80 SELF-HEALING TIRES A SAMPLE PAIR TO INTRODUCE, ONLY **4**

The regular retail price of these tires is \$5.50 per pair, but to introduce we will sell you a sample pair for \$1.80 (cash with order \$1.50).

NO MORE TROUBLE FROM PUNCTURES

NAILS, Tacks or Glass will not let the tire out. Sixty thousand pairs sold last year. Over two hundred thousand pairs now in use.

DESCRIPTION: Made in all sizes. It is lively and easy riding, very durable and lined inside with a special quality of rubber, which never becomes porous and which closes up small punctures without allowing the air to escape. We have hundreds of letters from satisfied customers stating that their tires have only been pumped up once or twice in a whole season. They weigh no more than an ordinary tire, the puncture resisting qualities being given by several layers of thin, specially prepared fabric on the tread. The regular price of these tires is \$5.50 per pair, but for advertising purposes we are making a special factory price to the rider of only \$1.80 per pair. All orders shipped same day letter is received. We ship C. O. D. on approval. You do not pay a cent until you have examined and found them strictly as represented.

We will allow a cash discount of 5 per cent (thereby making the price \$1.65 per pair) if you send **FULL CASH WITH ORDER** and enclose this advertisement. You run no risk in sending us an order as the tires may be returned at OUR expense if for any reason they are not satisfactory on examination. We are perfectly reliable and money sent to us is as safe as in a bank. If you order a pair of these tires, you will find that they will ride easier, run faster, wear better, last longer and look finer than any tire you have ever used or seen at any price. We know that you will be so well pleased that when you want a bicycle you will give us your order. We want you to send us a trial order at once, hence this remarkable tire offer.

IF YOU NEED TIRES don't buy any kind at any price until you send for a pair of Hedgethorn Puncture-Proof tires on approval and trial at the special introductory price quoted above; or write for our big Tire and Sundry Catalogue which describes and quotes all makes and kinds of tires at about half the usual prices.

DO NOT WAIT but write us a postal today. **DO NOT THINK OF BUYING** a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone until you know the new and wonderful offers we are making. It only costs a postal to learn everything. Write it NOW.

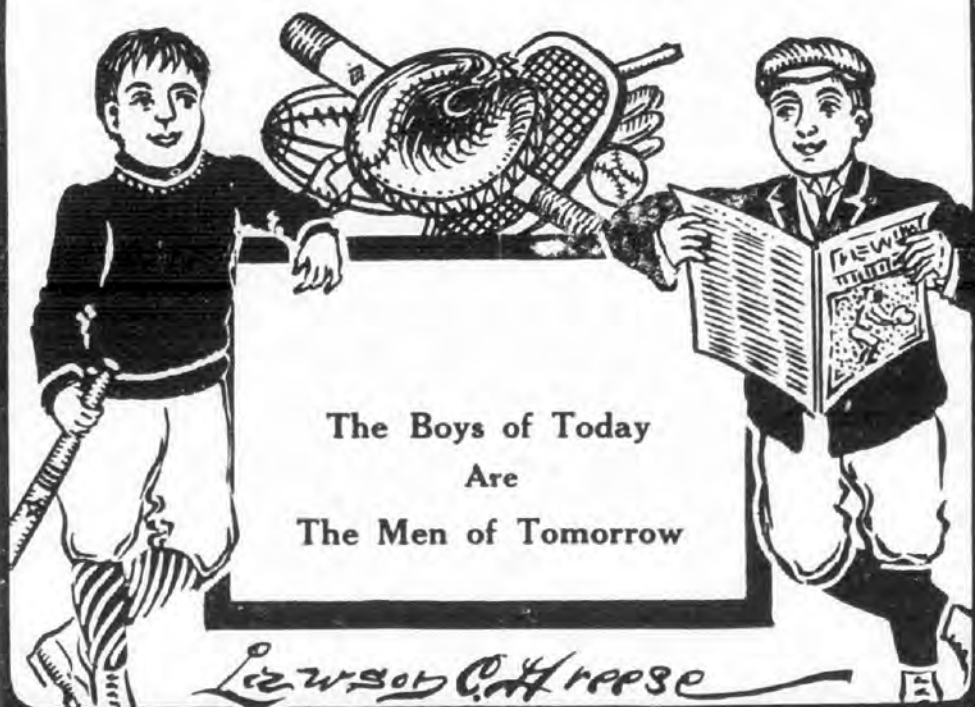


Notice the thick rubber tread "A" and puncture strips "B" and "C," also rim strip "D" to prevent rim cutting. This tire will outlast any other make—SOFT, ELASTIC and EASY RIDING.

J. L. MEAD CYCLE COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILL.

The Junior American A BOYS' MAGAZINE

Vol. II. JANUARY - FEBRUARY No. 1



The Boys of Today
Are
The Men of Tomorrow

Lawson C. H. Reese

PUBLISHED BI-MO.,
BY THE
JUNIOR AMERICAN PUB. CO.
BRISTOL, IND.

The Junior American

The Boys of To-day are the Men of To-morrow.

BRISTOL, IND., JANUARY & FEBRUARY—1911.

The Discharged Clerk

—C. H. Meiers.—

The proprietor sat alone at his private desk in one of the large department stores, which flourish in the down-town districts of a large city. It was evident that something had occurred to disturb the serenity of his thoughts, for he made no effort to conceal a dark frown as, with an impatient motion, he pointed to a chair opposite when the head clerk of the clothing department appeared at the open door.

Regardless of his forbidding mood, however, it was Frank Sterns, the clerk, who opened the conversation, abruptly, and with no signs of quaking before the stern, cold look which told him as plainly as words could have done that it was not to receive a promotion, nor a raise of salary that he had been called to the office for this interview.

"I understand that you wish to speak to me on important business. May I ask why I am called here today?"

"How long have you been employed in this establishment, Mr. Sterns?"

"A little more than three years, sir."

"You know, then, the rules which govern the employees of this firm, and the requirements?"

"I think I do, sir."

"And you know full well the fate of an employee who fails to meet those requirements?"

"I understand that you would not care to keep, in your employ, a clerk

who was not capable of meeting them."

"You also know, perhaps, that honesty is the first and most important of those requirements?"

"Thomas King! if you have called me here to question me in regard to my honesty; will you be kind enough to state just what you mean?"

"I mean, Mr. Frank Sterns, that I have been informed at the bank that you are laying by more money each month than your salary amounts to. Can you explain how such a condition can exist together with honesty?"

"I could explain it sir, but I consider it no one's business but my own."

"Then you may consider yourself discharged without recommendation or honor, the amount due you is twenty-one dollars; take this check and leave at once."

"Very well, Mr. King, as ever before, I obey your orders, Good Day."

Down the busy streets he passed with head bent forward and eyes down-cast, while in his heart was a feeling of injured pride and honesty. How lonely he felt in the midst of the busy, hustling throng! and how little those grasping, clamoring people seemed to care for each other.

He struggled through the crowd of afternoon shoppers for a few blocks; then took a side street toward the lake to avoid them and passed on down to the water front to be alone with his saddened thoughts and heavy heart.

A few moments he sat at the water's edge, watching a small boat about one hundred yards from the shore, in which sat two fashionably dressed ladies, evidently enjoying a careless drift, scarcely moving as they dangled their hands in the untroubled water of the lake.

He thought of how contented they were, and wished that he were as free from care and worry as they appeared to be. Then as he looked more closely at them he discovered to his surprise that one of them was the wife of the man who had just discharged him so abruptly from the position which he had looked upon as permanent.

For a moment he felt a bitter feeling of revenge sweep over him as he gazed at the peaceful figure in the boat and wondered how she could thus enjoy a life of ease and comfort, while, though he had worked hard to gain a position which would enable him to maintain a home and marry the girl whom he loved more than all else in the world, he was now cast out to begin all over again without recommendation or honor.

As these thoughts were tugging at his troubled brain he saw one of the ladies rise quickly in the boat and gaze for a moment at the bottom, then frantically stoop and begin to dip water from the boat with her hands as she uttered a wild cry for help; then the other rose and both tried to relieve the leaking boat. As they bent to the task they bumped each other slightly, overbalanced for a moment and before they could regain their position the boat rocked, there was a slip and with a scream they both fell into the lake.

At the first wild cry for help, Frank, forgetting all his bitter feelings of revenge, dashed into the water and struck out to aid the terror-stricken occupants of the boat and was within a few yards when he saw them plunge into the water. In a few strokes he was at the spot and with difficulty succeeded in helping them to the boat, and as they clung desperately to its side he pushed it swiftly to the shore and assisted them, half fainting, to land; then hailing a cab he placed them both inside,

paid the driver, and was gone before they had recovered enough to even thank him for the timely and gallant rescue which he had made.

Next morning he received a message asking him to call at once at the private office of Thomas King. He responded expecting to be offered only another chance to explain, but as he entered Mr. King held forth a paper, neatly folded, saying: "Read that and know my gratitude, and forgive me for having doubted you."

As he read a look of happiness came over his face and pictures of home and sweetheart came back to him again, for it was a contract, signed by Thomas King, in which he was given the office of General Manager; to take his position without explanations, regarding the manner of his savings. As he clasped the hand of the changed and friendly proprietor he said, with a happy smile:

"I am willing to tell you now that I have been writing during spare time for the past year, using a *nom de plume*, and that is how I managed to lay by more than the amount of my salary."

THE BOY WHO WHINES, By J. L. Harbour.

I think that if I were asked to name one of the most disagreeable attributes common to some boys, it would be the unpardonable habit of whining. The boy who whines is out of harmony with all that makes boyhood delightful, and it goes without saying that a boy of this kind will not have many friends. He will be sure to be left out when the other boys are forming a baseball nine, or when they are planning anything for their pleasure, for the whining boy is a veritable wet blanket. He fairly radiates unhappiness. I once lived six months in the home of a boy of this kind, and I remember that his mother used to say:

"I would rather do anything myself than to ask Joe to do it, for he whines so when he is asked to do the least little thing."

This was true. He whined because he had to go to bed, and he whined because he had to get up in the morn-

ing. He whined because he had to go to school, and he whined still more when he was now and then asked to remain at home for half a day to be helpful to his mother or to his father. He whined because he could not have this, that, or the other, and he whined because the things he had did not please him. Of course, he had an unhappy look, and he *was* unhappy. If he was asked to do a thing, he would be sure to say:

"Why can't someone else do it?"

Of course, he was a shirk. I never knew a whining boy who was not. And of course he was selfish. The whining boy is always that. And it goes without saying that his habit of whining caused his friends to lack confidence in him. No whining boy ever has confidence in himself, and I feel safe in declaring that the whining boy who becomes a whining man is never a success in life. He usually joins the ranks of quite a large army of unsuccessful men, who attribute their failures to the fact that they "never had any chance" in life, and who will say gloomily that "this is no world for a poor man."

Indeed, the evil results of a fixed habit of whining are so many and so grievous that if any boy who reads this finds himself falling into this habit, he owes it to himself, to his family, to his friends, and to his God to at once resolve that he will say, "Get thee behind me, Satan," to that habit.

Note the wide difference between the bright, cheery, willing, joyous boy, and the boy who whines. Note the difference in the degree of their popularity in a town or village. Note, if you will, the wide difference in the degree of their success in life. Note the difference in their ability to put happiness into their own lives and into the lives of others.

The whining boy is a sort of blot on the fair face of creation. May this kind decrease.

BE SQUARE.

By George Whitefield D'vys.

Say, my boy, though there are drawbacks

That may hamper you in life,
Though the skies above are darkened,

And the future seems a strife,
Just resolve to face it bravely,
Have the grit to up and dare,
And you'll win, despite the drawbacks
If, in all things, you'll 'Be square.'

There's a something in the sparkle
Of an honest youngster's eye
That demands the admiration
Which the world does ne'er deny.
Meet him where you will, you'll notice
By his frank and fearless air
He convinces all about him
That in all things he'll 'Be square.'

Plan great deeds, then up and at them
With a manly, glowing face;
Just forget about the drawbacks,
Be a leader in the race.
Have a noble, steadfast purpose,
And you'll conquer all you dare;
For you've learned true victory's secret,

In those simple words, 'Be square.'
—B. W.

KNOWLEDGE INVISIBLE.

When troubles air a-brewin', folks
will tell you all about 'em,
An' they'll tell you 'bout the others'
wrongs an' how they are without
'em,

An' when they git thru talkin' we're
a bit inclined to doubt 'em,
An' we don't know what they'll
tell us on the morrow.

When there's scandal in the neighbor-
hood, there's someone who'll per-
sue it;

Jes' mind yo' business, stay at home
an' let 'em get into it;

'Tis best to not learn quite so much,
for some day you might rue it;

For we don't know what will
happen on the morrow.

—Jackson Dunaway.

RONALD'S PUNISHMENT.

By Julian T. Baber, O. T. N.

"By George! that collection of Dr. Anderson's is a peach, and I am going to have it, fair means or foul. That Post-Office Mauritius is what I want in particular." These words were spoken by Ronald Early, a sixteen year old boy, as he entered his room in the boarding house.

"I can't get the collection by myself, so I'll have to take in a pardner; Sam Cummings is the very boy I want

to see." So getting up from beside the stove, and putting on his overcoat and overshoes, he set out for Sam's home.

Sam lived about a half-mile from the boarding-house, so Ronald had quite a cold walk before him. In due time he arrived, and was soon in consultation with Sam.

Sam agreed to Ronald's proposition, and the time for this exciting venture was set for the following night.

Sam was to sneak into the kitchen of Dr. Anderson's residence, and make his way to the parlor where the covered album was kept. When he had procured the album, he was to open the parlor window, and hand it to Ronald who would be waiting for it.

Dr. Anderson was an old bachelor, and lived by himself. It was not customary for him to come home from his office until ten o'clock. The boys knew this, and agreed to start for the doctor's residence at nine o'clock.

The night was cloudy, and a drizzling rain was falling. Ronald and Sam reached the doctor's house at the appointed time, and Sam made his way into the house without any trouble; as soon as he had the album in his hands he made his way to the window and gave it to Ronald.

Then closing the window through which he had entered the building, the two set out for Ronald's boarding house. Ronald had the album under his overcoat. They were about half way to the boarding house, when who should they meet but Dr. Anderson coming down a corner-street.

Ronald became nervous when he saw the doctor approaching him, and to cap the climax, he stumbled over a water-fixture in the sidewalk, and down he went, album, stamps, etc., directly in front of Dr. Anderson.

The doctor immediately recognized his album, and demanded an explanation from Ronald. Sam by this time had disappeared around the corner, and was making for home. Ronald was too dazed to speak. The old gentleman knew at once that they had stolen his album, so he called a policeman, and Ronald was bundled off to

the police-station.

He had to answer the charge of burglary, and was sentenced to four years in the reformatory. Sam escaped the vigilance of the police, and to last accounts, has not been heard from.

Dr. Anderson, though very thankful that his collection was not confiscated, was very angry at the boys, and told the judge to give them the full extent of the law. Later on, the doctor's heart became softened, and he asked the authorities to pardon Ronald. They did this willingly, thinking that he had been punished enough by the shame that was heaped upon him.—B. F.



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by

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