

A BOLD BACKWOODS BOY.

Jad was eleven years old and little Chlo, his sister, was two years younger. But this was a great many years ago when their father, Mr. Dunlap, had just moved into a township in the western part of Maine, which was then a wild, uninhabited region, save where here and there an adventurous settler had planted his little log hut in the heart of the wilderness, and laid bare a few acres of the forest as a nucleus of the future home of himself and thriving familyalmost always a small colony in itself.

cried, excitedly, dashing through a clump of cedars. And sure enough, there he was! A about attacking such animals. ig, round-headed wildcat !

Chlo set off for the brook, hatchet and

As the neared the place where the fox

trap was set they heard the chain clink-

fishpole in hand.

anyway," muttered Jad. He did not get much sympathy from "I bet my head we've got him !" Jad

alone !"

settler, some two miles distant, Jad and eyeing his frock and bleeding arm. "I

his father, either, who chided him severely for his want of prudence, and bade him be more cautious in the future,

guess 'twill learn you to let wildcats

"He won't eat any more of my mink,

present and overshadowing. The little doctor picked out a minute instrument and took the dimensions of the wart, then he put on a tiny pair of forceps,

and in a second the wart rolled off like a traitor's head. Blood followed, which was soon stanched; but the root was yet to be killed. A small cold steel, wrapped about with cotton wool, was dipped into

a white liquid.

"What is that ?" asked the patient who a i only spoken in gasps of "oh" "ah's" during the performance. "I gave a hundred dollars to find out." answered the doctor pleasantly,

snall, and it was remembered that when is possible that some such son in the Enpress took her last bath in the duck pond in 1879 she flopped around in such an extravagant manner and stirred up the mud so thoroughly that she came

out far dirtier than she was when she went in. It was clear that if the elephants were to bathe, a tub would have April, and, as it was finished on Friday,

put one of her feet in the water, stopped,

raised her trunk and trumpeted loudly.

This cry seemed to dispel the fears of

her companions, for an instant later

oughly and going under the water sev-

eral times, waded to a place where the

water was only about three feet deep

and stood there lazily whisking his

good-for-nothing little tail at the flies,

as he viewed with evident astonishment

the preposterous capers Fanny was cut-

ting. The Dom accepted the situation

county, Ohio, six inches long. Isn't it nearly time to put an air-brake on that State and hold her back in line with the rest of us.

An Amiable Aliigator.

The long wharf at Mandarin, Fiorida, stretches some six hundred feet out into to be built. The work was begun in the peaceful St. John's and hither repair the fishermen, after their night's toil in the bathers took their first dip yesterday | their row boats with their nets, to sell

place of sin, if he would but listen, would hear her voice saying to him with such pathos in it, Stop! Or, as he was hurried along the "broad road" he has heard within his own heart, as distinctly as if human lips has spoken-his own conscience-the word Stop !- Congrega-

tionalist. Religious News and Notes.

Ab, who can tell what homesick mcments and longings for the old associations our pioneer fathers and mothers endured, coming, as did many of them, from wealthy States and pleasant surroundings. There must have been a mighty attraction in the wild, free life of the backwoodsman and a genuine love of the simple and homely joys of the rough Learthstone, to have held them in these rude homes, almost isolated, as they were, from the world. But they lived in anticipation, looking eagerly forward to a future of plenty, when the wilderness should become cultivated and fruitful through their first persistent and hardy efforts.

With an energy characteristic of the first settlers, Mr. Dunlap pushed his way on through toil, hardships and many privations, at first felling and clearing a patch large enough to put up a log cabin for his family, then by degrees cutting farther and farther into the primitive forest, till now quite a large track lay open to the sun, a part of which was under tolerable cultivation, the rest laying black and still smoking from recent burnings.

As before stated, Jad was now eleven. He was a dark-faced, sinewy lad, tough as a thong, inheriting much of his father's pluck and endurance. What- stones. ever he undertook to do he was pretty sure to carry through.

In these unsettled regions wild animals were numerous, especially the wildcat, lynx and glutton, or wolverine. These creatures often came into the clearings, and their frequent depredations became a great pest to the settlers.

There was also an abundance of smaller game to be had for the trapping, he began to climb the rough trunk. and this fall Jad was anticipating no end of enjoyment in the warm Indian summer days, trapping for "musquash" (muskrat) and mink along Renny Brook, which ran past the clearing half a mile on his foot, wouldn't ye? Just like a away in the woods. His father had | girl-'fraid of her own shadder!" cried helped him make his traps, and on his Jad, scornfully. "I tell yer, he's got to very first visit he was greatly elated by pay for them mink with his skin-see if finding a sleek and glossy mink in one of them. This piece of good luck had set Jad half wild, for mink skins brought a high price at the "big settlement," twenty-five miles down the country, where his father always went to do his As he came within a yard of the cat it trading.

leap down upon the boy's head, all the Jad watched his traps eagerly, as a miser watches his money bags. But time growling fiercely. Throwing the with all his vigilance, what was his dis- hatchet back over his shoulder as far as may to find, one morning, in the trap he could reach, Jad struck at the big farthest up stream, that a mink had head in the crotch, of the tree just been caught and taken out by some wild above him. But the creature dodged beast and devoured. The tail and little the blow. He again struck and missed; featherly clumps of fur lay scattered but the next time he was fortunate about the trap. Dire vengeance against enough to hit the cat on the head, fairly the wild marauder possessed his heart. knocking it off the limb to the ground, Little Chlo was a keen sympathizer in where for a moment it lay stunned and

tis troubles. She was also his compan- motionless. Jad slipped quickly down the trunk, ion in this trapping expedition, in which

At Jad's sudden appearance the creature bounded and leaped frantically to a number of days before he got over the free himself, but the stake was a strong one. After cutting a stout green club three

or four feet in length, Jad stuck the hatchet beneath the strap which he wore for a belt, and going as near as he dared struck at the creature with all his might. He missed, however, and the cat darted round to the other side of the stake, bring up with a sudden jerk, where it crouched, growling low and watching Erungetist as follows : We set our faces the boy with fiery eyes and ears laid back.

"Oh, don't go so near him, Jad !" cautioned little Chlo, retreating across the brook. "He'll fly at ve 'fore ve know it !" "Let 'em fly !" cried the now excited boy. "He's going to get his head cracked 'fore I'm done with 'im ! Take ing and pressing her withered cheek that, ye sneakin' thief !" he added, ven- against the tomb with as much distress turing up and bringing down the club with a quick blow, just grazing the ani-

mal as he jumped to the other side. Then round and round the stake they flew, Jad thumping the ground, trap, anything but the cat, which adroitly kept out of his reach, all the time furiously snarling and spitting. It was hard telling which was pursuer as they gyrated about the stake amid a perfect whirlwind of dead leaves.

But in an unlucky moment Jad's chain got under the trap chain, and, bringing it up suddenly, he threw the ring over the top of the stake. With a bound the creature was off, the chain rattling after him catching under roots and

There was not a second to lose, and the boy gave hot chase. They ran on for fifty rods or more ; then seeing Jad so close upon him, the cat scratched up the trunk of a hemlock, trap and all, and from the branches glared at the panting and excited boy.

Jad's courage was now up to the highest pitch, and throwing down his club "Don't go up there, Jad, for pity sake,

don't !" implored little Chlo, now coming up all out of breath. "Yes, an' let him go off with pa's trap

he don't!" and he climbed on laboriously, giving vent to his indignation in threats which he meant to put into execution. Reaching the lower limbs, Jad grasped the hatchet firmly, ready for an assault.

kept clawing and making attempts to the Nativity was ten-fold more satisfac-

It took a long time to heal up Jad's lacerated arms and shoulders, and it was soreness and lameness enough to visit 'couldn't tell for less." his traps. However, Jad was not troubled again that fall, while two more mink were added to his little pile of furs which he sent on his father's load down all !" to the "settlement" not long after.

At Bethlehem.

The Rev. Dr. Theodore Cuyler writes of a visit to Bethlehem in the New York for the pools of Solomon, halting a few Lad conquered.

moments at the tomb of Rachel by the roadside. The small structure was crowded with Jews, some of whom were phylacteries, and all were wailing, as they wail beside the remnant of the temple walls. One old woman was weepas if the fair young wife who breathed out her life there forty centuries ago had been her own daughter. We found the enormous pools of Solomon (the longest of which measures 580 feet in length) were about half filled with pure water. We rode beside the aqueduct that leads from them all the way to

Bethlehem. Down among the bleak and barren hills we saw the deep, feitile vale of Urtas, filled with gardens and fruit trees. It is cultivated by the European colony planted by Mr. M s hullam. For a half hour we feasted our eyes with the view of beautiful Bethlehem perched on its lofty hill and sur-

rounded by olive orchards. So many new edifices have been erected for convents and other religious purposes that Bethlehem has almost a modern look. As we rode through its narrow streets we saw no Ruths, but an ancient Jew in turban, long robe and flowing beard, quite answered to my idea of Boaz, We rode to the conventadjoining the Church of the Nativity, where a rather jolly-

looking monk furnished us an excellent lunch. He then took us into the venerable church that covers the subterranean chamber in which tradition has always held that our blessed Lord was born. The chamber is probably a remnant of an ancient khan once belonging to the family of Jesse and King David. expected to be shocked by a sham mockery when I entered the church, but a feeling of genuine faith in the locality came over me as I descended into the rocky chamber and read, around the silver star, the famous inscription in Latin, "Here Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary." The three-fold argument

for the authenticity of this site is drawn from unbroken tradition. from the fact that Bethlehem has never been overthrown in sieges, and from the other fact that the learned St. Jerome (in the fourth century) was so sure of the site that he came and spent his long, laborious life in the cavern close by the birth spot of our Lord. I entered with deep interest the cave in which this devont scholar meditated and prayed and wrought the Vulgate translation of God's word. My visit to the Church of

"But will it hurt ?" "Very little," and he jabbed the base of the wart gently, "smarts a trifle that's

The jabbing process went on until the spot was insensible to feeling, the doctor meanwhile improving his time and keeping up the girl's 'spirits by telling stories of all the remarkable warts he

"Warts grow in classes," he said, as he dipped into the white liquid again. There are nervons warts, indolent warts, obtrusive warts, and obstinate warts. They are all of fungus growth. fed by vegetable impurities in the blood, for which they have an affinity. Young people are more subject to them than old. The majority of my patients are ladies. most subject to them ; took a wart from the tip of the nose of the prettiest girl in Detroit ; yours is most killed. A man

Look in the glass !" The patient did as directed. The

black court plaster was in its place : her church of the city and State. face was a celestial rosy red with delight, and she looked as if she could have augged the little doctor, who prudently etreated to his salves.

"You don't know the mortification that wart has caused me," she said, layng a generous greenback in his hand. "I never parted with anything so willingly ; a thousand thanks, doctor !"

"That's the fourth I've had to-day," said the doctor, as he stuffed the greenback into a plethoric wallet, "only one was a mouse."

"A mouse, doctor ?"

"Yes, a mouse, a birth mark. The ady came up because she had seen two others from whose features I had taken a mouse. She had one at the corner of of her mouth, and there wasn't a sur-Detroit Post.

you would now be seventy."

tory than that to the Church of the phant, ma," he answered, "that gobbled randing expeditions to crops of grain.- another dip at one o'clock this after- or dandle in our arms with interested

A convention of Swedish Baptists has been organized in Kansas.

The Rev. George H. Hepworth, D.D., concrete floor and is lined with bricks. of New York city, has been called to the Half an hour after the elephants, Dow pastorate of the First Congregational church, Meriden, Conn., at a salary of \$5,000. from their pens to the brick-covered

Pope Leo has appointed Dr. McMullen roadway which inclines to the water in of Chicago, Bishop of Davenport, a new diocese formed out of the southern half came suspicious about the solidity of of Iowa, and including the cities of Keokuk, Des Moines, Davenport and Council Bluffs.

It is announced that Mr. Francis Murtwo or three wicked snorts, which were phy, the temperance evangelist, has echoed by her companions, she moved been recommended by the official board cautionsly towards the water. The plane of East Brady, Pa., to the District Conto the pool is only about sixty feet long. ference as a suitable person to be licenbut so slowly did the bathers move that sed to preach. fifteen minutes elapsed before Empress

The Free Congregational society at Florence, Mass., voted to call Rev. Mr. Spencer and wife, of Haverbill, Mas ... to become resident speaker . They will Ever see a lady that didn't have warts? alternate in occupying the platform Dom Pedro pushed his way to the front People with light eyes and hair are the three Sundays of each month, the society and went boldly into the water. Fanny supplying the other Sunday.

plunged in next, taking a genuine ele-Two large memorial brasses, with phantine "header" and reappearing in curved oak frames, have been placed in the center of the pool Empress entered came here the other day with fifty waits St. James Episcopal church, Chicago. very slowly until her legs were covered, on his head-cured them all. There ! in memory of Bishops Chase and Whiteand then with a grunt, which indicated house. Each is inscribed "In memointense satisfaction, she toppled over riam" with appopriate names and dates. on her left side and sank out of sight. wart was gone and a beauty spot of St. James is the pioneer Episcopal Dom Pedro, after sousing himself thor-

There were last year in the Church of England 127,786 confirmations. Of these 51,256 were males and 76,530 females. The largest number confirmed in any one diocese was in London, being 15,538.

Cranes.

as coolly as though he bathed every day Cranes of one or more species are instead of once in two years, but the found everywhere, with the exception females fairly bubbled over with maniof South America, the Malayan and festations of satisfaction and they dived Papauan Archipelagoes, and the scatand spouted and snorted and trumpeted tered islands of the Pacific. The comnearly an hour. A ter splashing around mon European species, celebrated in all times for its migrations-

"So steers the prodent crans

rolled down into the water again. The Her annual voyage borne on winds ; the air effect of this newly-discovered feat must Floats as they pass, fann'd with unnumber'd have pleased her intensely, for on complumes"_ was at one time very numerous in the

There is her address-confidential, of Milton knew the bird. The name is scampered up the bath to repeat the his head is down in the night he's course. You can see her in two weeks, quite wrongly applied to the heron in novel performance. and there'll be neither mouse nor scar. Scotland and Ireland, while in America I make a specialty of warts and moles and Australia the white egret herons most deeply interested in Fanny's perand birth marks, and I've had some are also called cranes. Old Æ 30p's formances Dom Pedro showed his illbe-a-u-ti-ful cases. It's astonishing how fable of the stork being captured in the breeding by sucking a gallon or so of many faces I have an interest in, but I evil companionship of the cranes, and never seem to see them. The past is being condemned to death for thus even past, and it is business with me.- associating with notorious plunderers

A doctor recently reproved a friend indeed, as Blyth truly remarks, than for his too liberal use of absinthe .- did that world renowned master of "Bah !" said the latter, "I've drank of medizeval painters, who commits the it since I was a boy, and I'm sixty."- | curious zoological mistake of introduc-"Very likely," replied the doctor; but ing cranes instead of storks in his if you had never drank of it, perhaps world-known cartoon of the "Miraculous Drau, ht of Fishes." In common with many other gregarious birds, cranes

Little Robbie went to a show and always place sentinels as a lookout, saw an elephant for the first time in his while the rest of the flock will trustlife. When he came home his mother fully repose, and they likewise leave asked him what he had seen. "An ele- them on the watch while on their ma-

morning. The bath-tub is oval in shape, the quivering fish to the inhabitants and ten feet deep, about one hundred and ship the surplus by morning steamer to twenty feet in circumference and has a Jacksonville.

I strolled down the wharf in quest of a mess and met a tall, bony fisherman. Pedro, Empress and Fanny, breakfasted on whose face the habit of fishing all vesterday morning they were marched night had left a very plain impression. "Haven't got a fish," said he. "No luck at all last night. I should have the bathing place. Here Empress be- had some luck, too, if it warn't for an alligator. He got in my net and it took the roadway and stopped. The keeper, me nearly all right to get him out, and however, found several tender places on there were two of the prettiest schools of bass flopping by that I ever saw. her body with his harpoon, and after Instead of getting a good lot of um as I ought ter have done, and would hev done if it wa'n't for that alligator, here I am this morning with nothing at all in the boat except the thing."

"Have you got him in the boat?" I asked.

"Yes; don't yer want ter come down and see him ?"

I followed him down to the end of the wharf, and preceding us went his fisher companion, a lad of about seventeen.

The boat lay moored to the bulkhead, and up above on the wharf, under a shed, sat a half dozen negro women with their babies, waiting for the next steamboat.

The boy, with an animated grin, ran down the flight of steps into the boat, and as we approached pulled out an alligator, four or five feet long, by a cord that was fastened about his neck, and held it on his knees, bending its tail around from side to side.

The negro women, at the first look, rabbed their babies and fled in all directions, notwithstanding the boy's good natured, "He won't hurt you."

He picked bim up and put him down, coiled his tail, rubbed his sides and put his big, ngly head upon the boat-thwart for general exhibition, and through it all the alligator was as quiet as a lamb. Indeed, he seemed rather to like the process he was undergoing. Perhaps fifteen or twenty minutes Fanny walked he liked the jolly disposition of the up the incline and then deliberately boy.

"Won't he bite him?" I asked.

"No; alligators won't generally bite," said my fisherman, "unless you tantaing to the surface each time her piggish lize um. That boy there," he continued, geon in the country would touch it. fenny districts of England; so possibly little eyes sparkled joyously and she "is just like a baby; jus' as quick as asleep."

At the moment the spectators were Now this seemed just unlike most babies to me, I said nothing, while he went on :

"Last night, sir, after we ketched tha water into his trunk and, poking that 'gator we put him in the bottom of the member out horizontally until it was as boat forward, and that boy there went rigid as a hose nozzle, he discharged its and laid right down alongside of him; of grain, indicates that he well enough contents full in the face of an observing and, sir, ef he and the alligator didn't knew the two kinds of birds ; far better, naturalist who stood near the edge of sleep together, rolled in the same pool. The naturalist as soon as he re- blanket the rest of the night."

covered his breath used bad language I looked in the boy's face for some and Dom Pedro beltowed as if proud of trace of kinship to the ugly saurian, or his performance. The keeper had some some sign of that which had won its difficulty in getting the elephants out mild behavior, but the kind eyes and of the water, but he finally succeeded look of jolly good nature were all I and drove them to their pens. On the could see. Possibly, if all the winter visitors to Florida were endowed with journey, however, Fanny insisted on rolling in the dust, so that when she good humored, rollicking natures, the reached her apartment she was about ugly brutes might yet be transformed three times as dirty-looking as when she into affectionate domestic pets, which went into the bath, but she will take we might lead about with a pink ribbon

