THELIGHT IN THE CLEARING

A TALE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY IN THE TIME OF SILAS WRIGHT

IRVING BACHELLER

BEEN HOLDEN, D'RI AND I, DARREL OF THE BLESSED ISLES, KEEPING UP WITH LIZZIE ETC. ETC

"Thunder an' Jehu! I wouldn't go

'round the town tryin' to prove that I

ain't a thief," said Uncle Peabody. "It

wouldn't make no differ'nce. They've

bean bag let 'em as long as they do it

when I ain't lookin'. I wouldn't won-

I never heard him speak of it again.

Indeed, although I knew the topic was

often in our thoughts it was never

That week a letter came to me from

the senator, announcing the day of

getting the house to rights. I did so.

cleaner. I remember that my first

The senator returned to Canton that

and beaver hat and in the splendid

"I believe your own marks have

"Poorer than I could wish. The

teacher has been very kind to me," he

laughed. "What have you been study-

"Latin (I always mentioned the

He asked about my aunt and uncle

and I told him of all that had befallen

us, save the one thing of which I had

"I shall go up to see them soon," he

The people of the little village had

learned that he preferred to be let

alone when he had just returned over

the long, wearisome way from the

scene of his labors. So we had the

Mrs. Wright, being weary after the

Remember My First Task Was Mend-

ing the Wheelbarrow.

upon my career.

the suggest that the conduct the secret start as the sec

day's work, went to bed early and, at

his request, I sat with the senator by

evening to ourselves.

Latin first), algebra, arithmetic, gram-

mar, geography and history."

spoken only with him and Sally.

been excellent in the last year," I ven-

task was mending the wheelbarrow.

that, to my knowledge.

the night came on.

der if they got sore hands by an' by."

CHAPTER XIV-Continued.

—14— So saying he handed me this letter: "Canterbury, Vt.,

"June 1. "Dear Sir.—I am interested in the boy Barton Baynes. Good words about him have been flying around like pigeons. When school is out I would like to hear from you, what is the record? What do you think of the soul in him? What kind of work is best for it? If you will let me maybe I can help the plans of God a little. That is my business and yours. Thanking you for reading this, I am, as ever,

"God's humble servant, "KATE FULLERTON." "Why, this is the writing of the Silent Woman," I said before I had read the letter half through.

"Rovin' Kate?" "Roving Kate; I never knew her other name, but I saw her handwriting long ago."

"But look—this is a neatly written, well-worded letter an' the sheet is as white and clean as the new snow. Uncanny woman! They say she carries almost an inseparable companion of the power o' God in her right hand. his." So do all the wronged."

me," I said.

my lad."

Having come to the first flight of Yet it was very simple. a boy who is choosing his way with a some painting in the house. growing sense of loneliness!

regular company dinner-chicken pie eye in his broadcloth and fine linen and strawberry shortcake.

How well I remember that hour with | dignity and courtesy of his manners. the doors open and the sun shining the joy of man and bird and beast in the return of summer and the talk about the late visit of Alma Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln!

While we were eating I told them about the letter of old Kate.

"Fullerton!" Aunt Deel exclaimed. "Are ye sure that was the name, Bart?"

"Goodness gracious sakes alive!" She and Uncle Peabody gave each other looks of surprised inquiry.

"Do you know anybody by that name?" I asked. "We used to," said Aunt Deel as she

resumed her eating. "Can't be she's one o' the Sam Fullertons, can it?"

"Oh, prob'ly not," said Uncle Peabody. "Back East they's more Fullertons than ye could shake a stick at."

A week later we had our raising. Uncle Peabody did not want a public raising, but Aunt Deel had had her way. We had hewed and mortised and bored the timbers for our new home. The neighbors came with pikes and helped to raise and stay and cover them. A great amount of human kindness went into the beams and rafters of that home and of others like it. I knew that The Thing was still alive in the neighborhood, but even that could not paralyze the helpful hands of those people. Indeed, what was said of my Uncle Peabody was nothing more or less than a kind of conversational firewood. I cannot think that any one really believed it.

We had a cheerful day. A barrel of hard cider had been set up in the dooryard, and I remember that some drank it too freely. The he-o-hee of the men as they lifted on the pikes and the sound of the hammer and beetle rang in the air from morning until night. Mrs. Rodney Barnes and Mrs. Dorothy came to help Aunt Deel with the cooking and a great dinner was served on an improvised table in the dooryard, where the stove was set up. The shingles and sheathes and clapboard were on before the day ended.

Uncle Peabody and I put in the floors and stairway and partitions. More than once in the days we were working together I tried to tell him what Sally had told me, but my courage failed.

The day came, shortly, when I had to speak out, and I took the straight way of my duty as the needle of the compass pointed. It was the end of a summer day and we had watched the dusk fill the valley and come creeping up the slant, sinking the bowlders and thorn tops in its flood, one by one. As we sat looking out of the open door that evening I told them what Sally had told me of the evil report which had traveled through the two towns.

"Damn, little souled, narrer contracted-" Uncle Peabody, speaking in a low, sad tone, but with deep feeling, his chief aim should be the promotion cut off this highly promising opinion of peace and good will in his communbefore it was half expressed, and rose ity. He promised to try and arrange and went to the water pail and drank, for my accommodation in his office in

"As long as we're honest we don't the autumn and meanwhile to lend me care what they say," he remarked as some books to read while I was at he returned to his chair.

Aunt Deel

egy proportion in a

time you have given me?" I made out the statement very neat-

ly and carefully and put it in his

"That is well done," said he, "I shall wish you to stay until the day after toadd another day."

I amended the statement and he paid me the handsome sum of seven dollars. I remember that after I went to my room that night I stitched up the opening in my jacket pocket, which contained my wealth, with the needle and thread which Aunt Deel had put in my bundle, and Ant with the jacket under my mattress.

CHAPTER XV.

Use My Own Compass at a Fork In the Road.

Swiftly now I move across the border into manhood-a serious, eager, restless manhood. It was the fashion of the young those days.

Mr. Wright came up for a day's fishgot to have somethin' to play with, ing in July. My uncle and I took him If they want to use my name for a up the river.

While we ate our luncheon he described Jackson and spoke of the famous cheese which he had kept on a affairs, and I had little to do with him. table in the vestibule of the White House for his callers. He described his fellow senators-Webster, Clay, mentioned in our home but once after Rives, Calhoun and Benton. I remember that Webster was, in his view, the We sat for a long time thinking as least of them, although at his best the greatest orator. We had a delightful day, and when I drove back to the village with him that night he told me Mrs. Wright's arrival in Canton and that I could go into the office of Wright asking me to meet and assist her in & Baldwin after harvesting.

"It will do for a start," he said. "A She was a pleasant-faced, amiable little later I shall try to find a better woman and a most enterprising house place for you."

My life went on with little in it worth recording until the letter came. "I don't know what Silas would do I speak of it as "the letter," because if he were to get home and find his of its effect upon my career. It was wheelbarrow broken," said she. "It is from Sally, and it said:

"Dear Bart: It's all over for a long time, perhaps forever-that will de-The schoolmaster and his family pend on you. I shall be true to you, "I wonder why Kate is asking about were fishing and camping upon the if you really love me, even if I have to river, and so I lived at the senator's wait many, many years. Mother and "Never mind the reason. She is your house with Mrs. Wright and her moth- father saw and read your letter. They friend and let us thank God for it. er until he arrived. What a wonderful say we are too young to be thinking Think how she came to yer help in the house it was, in my view! I was awed about love and that we have got to old barn an' say a thousand prayers, by its size and splendor, its soft car- stop it. How can I stop it? I guess I pets and shiny brass and mahogany, would have to stop living. But we shall have to depend upon our memthe uplands, he left me with many a I hoed the garden and cleaned its ories now. I hope that yours is as kind word-how much they mean to paths and mowed the dooryard and did good as mine. Father says no more letters without his permission, and he stamped his foot so hard that I think I reached the warm welcome of our evening on the Watertown stage. He he must have made a dent in the floor. little home just in time for dinner. greeted me with a fatherly warmth. Talk about slavery-what do you think They were expecting me and it was a Again I felt that strong appeal to my of that? Mother says that we must wait-that it would make father a great deal of trouble if it were known that I allowed you to write. I guess "I've had good reports of you, Bart, the soul of old Grimshaw is still folbrightly on the blossoming fields and and I'm very glad to see you," he said. lowing you. Well, we must stretch out that lovely day as far as we can. On the third of June, 1844, we shall both be twenty-one—and I suppose that we can do as we please then. The day is a long way off, but I will agree to morning under the old pine on the would give them to the sheriff. river where I met you that day and you told me that you loved me. If task upon you," he added. "I want a know where to find each other. If you will solemnly promise, write these words and only these to my mother-Amour omnia vincit, but do not sign

> "SALLY." What a serious matter it seemed to me then! I remember that it gave words very neatly and plainly on a sheet of paper and mailed it to Mrs. Dunkelberg. I wondered if Sally would | Purvis is a man of nerve and vigor." stand firm, and lenged to know the I was resolved to be the principal witness in some great matter, as my friend in Ashery lane had put it.

your name.

I was eight months with Wright & and was going with me. Baldwin when I was offered a clerkship in the office of Judge Westbrook, at Cobleskill, in Schoharie county, at think we'll have i bully time." two hundred a year and my board. I that he wanted a reliable witness of prudence or his company. the rent troubles which were growing acute in Scheharie, Delaware and Co- but that I should be under your orlumbia counties.

It was a trial to go so far from home, as Aunt Deel put it, but both my reputation for good sense myself." aunt and uncle agreed that it was "for

"You better take it," she said. "I'm fraid you won't have enough."

How her hand and tips trembled!

have always kept that dollar. I couldn't see them as we drove away The judge received me kindly and gove Purvis a job in his garden. the fire for an hour or so. I have alhand and spent most of my time in ways thought it a lucky circumstance, for he asked me to tell of my plans and gave me advice and encouragement which have had a marked effect form, which I had the knack of doing rather neatly. I was impressed by the I remember telling him that I wished immensity of certain towns in the to be a lawyer and my reasons for it. neighborhood, and there were some He told me that a lawyer was either a temptations in my way. Many people, pest or a servant of justice and that and especially the prominent men, in-

dulged in ardent spirits. We had near us there a little section of the old world which was trying, in a half-hearted fashion, to maintain itself in the midst of a democracy. It was the manorial life of the patroons -a relic of ancient feudalism which "If they won't believe us, we ought "Before we go to bed let us have a had its beginning in 1629, when the to show 'em the papers—ayes," said settlement," said the senator, "Will West Indies company issued its char-

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and make up a statement of all the charter offered to any member of the company who should, within four years, bring fifty adults to the New Netherlands and establish them along the Hudson, a liberal grant of land, to be colled a manor, of which the owner or patroon should be full proprietor morrow, if you will. So you will please and chief magistrate. The settlers were to be exempt from taxation for ten years, but under bond to stay in one place and develop it. In the beginning the patroon built houses and barns and furnished cattle, seed and tools. The tenants for themselves and their heirs agreed to pay him a fixed rent forever in stock and produce and, further, to grind at the owner's mill and neither to hunt nor fish.

Judge Westbrook. in whose office I worked, was counsel and collector for the patroons, notably for the manors of Livingston and Van Renssalaertwo little kingdoms in the heart of the great republic.

Mr. Dunkelberg, came during my last

Mr. Louis Latour of Jefferson county whom I had met in the company of

year there to study law in the office of the judge, a privilege for which he was indebted to the influence of Senator Wright, I understood. He was a gay Lothario, always boasting of his love One day in May near the end of my two years in Cobleskill Judge Westbrook gave me two writs to serve on settlers in the neighborhood of Baldwin Heights for honpayment of rent. He told me what I knew, that there



A Big, Rough Dressed, Bearded Man Stood in the Middle of the Road With a Gun on His Shoulder.

was bitter feeling against the patroons in that vicinity and that I might encounter opposition to the service of the writs. If so I was not to press the meet you that day at eleven in the matter, but bring them back and he

"I do not insist on your taking this either or both should die our souls will man of tact to go and talk with these people and get their point of view. If you don't care to undertake it I'll send another man."

> "I think I would enjoy the task," I said in ignorance of that hornet's nest back in the hills.

"Take Purvis with you," he said. "He can take care of the horses, and Time a rather slow foot. I wrote the as those back-country folk are a little lawless it will be just as well to have a witness with you. They tell me that

I had drafted my letters for the day secrets of the future. More than ever | and was about to close my desk and start on my journey when Louis Latour came in and announced that he had brought the writs from the judge

> "I wouldn't miss it for a thousand doilars," he remarked. "By Jove! I

"I don't object to your going but knew not then just how the offer had you must remember that I am in comcome, but knew that the senator must | mand," I said, a little taken back, for have recommended me. I know now I had no good opinion either of his

"The judge told me that I could go ders," he answered. "I'm not going to be a fool. I'm trying to establish a

We got our dinners and set out soon after one o'clock. I had read the How it wrung my heart, when Mr. deeds of the men we were to visit. Purvis and I got into the stage at Can- They were brothers and lived on adton, to see my aunt and uncle standing joining farms with leases which covby the front wheel looking up at me, ered three hundred and fifty ecres of How old and lonely and forlorn they land. Their great-grandfather had looked! Aunt Deel had her purse in sgreed to pay a yearly rent forever of her hand. I remember how she took a sixty-two bushels of good, sweet, mer dollar out of it-I suppose it was the chantable, winter wheat, eight yearling only dollar she had—and looked at it cattle and four sheep in good flesh and moment and then handed it up to sixteen fat hens, all to be delivered in the city of Albany on the first day of January of each year. So, feeling that I was engaged in a just cause, I bravely determined to serve the writs if possible.

I rode in silence, thinking of Sally and of those beautiful days now receding into the past and of my aunt and was able to take his dictation in sound. uncle. I had written a letter to them every week and one or the other had taking down contracts and correspond- answered it. Between the lines I had ence and drafting them into proper detected the note of loneliness. They had told me the small news of the countryside. How narrow and monotonous it all seemed to me then! Rodney Barnes had bought a new farm; John Axtell had been hurt in a runaway; my white mare had got a spavin!

> "Hello, mister!" I started out of my revenes with ittle jump of surprise. A big. rough dressed, bearded man stood in the mid ale of the road with a gun on he

shoulder. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

you kindly sit down at the table there ter of privileges and exemptions That handsome mug in the barb Even a homely man mar & tother and an analysis of the plant of the charge and the said and the

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Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

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LESSON FOR MAY 18.

THE GRACE OF GOD.

LESSON TEXTS - Ephesians 2:4-10; Titus 2:11-14. GOLDEN TEXT-We believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they. -Acts 15:11. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL-Genesis 6: 7: 2 Cor. 12:9; John 1:16, 17; 1 Cor. 15:10; James 4:6; 1 Peter 4:10; 2 Peter 3:18.

Grace means unmerited favor. God's grace means his kindness toward us through Jesus Christ. (Eph. 2:7.) God's mercy does not go out to men because they are good but because he is good and desires to bestow that goodness upon lost and ruined men in order to make them good.

I. The Grace of God in Salvation (Eph. 2:4-10.)

Grace brings salvation; it does not send it. Jesus Christ, who is the embodiment of God's love and grace, came bringing salvation with him. In order to apprehend what the grace of God has done, observe:

1. Man's natural state (Eph. 2:1-3). In the natural man is found all that is opposed to the will and purpose of God. (1) Dead in trespasses and sins (v. 1). The supreme need of the dead man is life, therefore he must have life from without himself. The characteristic of one who is dead is that he is (a) without sensation-"past feeling." (4:19.) The natural man, therefore, can neither love God nor hate sin until he is made alive. (b) Without motion. Activity is the demonstration of life. So far as God and hoffness are concerned they are motionless. They are as helpless as Lazarus was in the grave. (2) Under the control of fleshly and worldly lusts (v. 2). The carnal nature holds sway over their lives. (3) Under the domination of Satan (v. 2). All unregenerate men and women are ruled by Satan. Since he is the god of this age (2 Cor. 4:4), the prince of this world (John 12:31), all who have not been freed by Christ are under the rule of Satan. (4) Under the condemnation and wrath of God (v. 3). Over all these-death, worldliness, disobedience, lust of the flesh-hangs the wrath and condemnation of God.

2. Man's state by grace (2:4-10). (1) He is alive in Christ (v. 5). The Holy Spirit lays hold upon men dead in sin and quickens them into life. (2) Raised up with Christ (v. 6). God's grace not only makes lost men alive but raises them up with Christ. (3) Association with Christ in glory (v. 6). Christ's incarnation has so identified himself with the race that those who are saved are raised up to be with Christ and shall ultimately share his glory. The actuating principle of God which moved him to thus lay hold upon lost men is his love (v. 4). Man's salvation is due entirely to God's grace. Not only the salvation has been provided in grace but the faith which appropriates it is God's gift (v. 8). Works as grounds of salvation are absolutely excluded. (4) The purpose of God in the salvation of men (vv. 7, 10). (a) It is to display his grace in the coming ages. The demonstration to the inhabitants of the spheres in which sin has not entered, in the ages to come, will be the transformation of dead and lost men and their exaltation with Christ. (b) To glorify God through their good works (v. 10: cf. Matt. 5:16). While good works have absolutely no part in the salvation of men God's purpose in saving them was that they might do good works. II. The Grace of Cod in Right Liv-

ing (Titus 2:11-14).

Grace is not only essential to salvation but essential to right living. It teaches saved men (1) to deny ungodliness (v. 12). The saved man has the divine nature. The grace which has saved him tenches him the necessity of a denial of everything that is opposed to God. (2) Worldly lusts (v. 12). The redeemed man is surrounded with the things of the world which have a downward pull upon him. The grace of God teaches him to renounce them. (3) Sober living (v. 12). The grace of God teaches the saved man self-control; to have the reins of his nature well in command and to rule with a strong hand. (4) Righteous living (v. 12). The grace of God teaches the saved man to live uprightly with reference to those about him. (5) Godly living (v. 12). It teaches him to so live in this present world as to enable him to meet God and abide in his fellowship. (6) It teaches the right motive in living (vv. 13, 14). The blessed hope of the glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ is the grand incentive to holy living in this present world. He that has it will keep him-

Greatest of All Heroes,

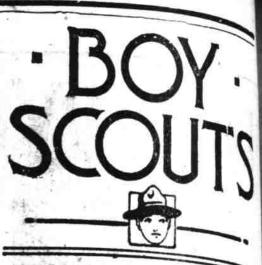
self pure. (I John 3:3.)

depend out occion des de management for easy in the late and approprie celle of

The greatest of all heroes is Onewhom we do not name here! Let sacred silence meditate that sacred matter; you will find it the ultimate perfection of a principle extant throughout man's whole history on earth.-Carlyle.

Christian Life. The problem of the Christian life finally is simplified to this-man has but to preserve the right attitude: To abide in Christ, to be in position. that is all.—Henry Drummond.

Alendar an "oth school



SCHOOLS AS SCOUT QUARTERS

In connection with the movement h make the school building the commit nity center with a wide variety of public-welfare activities, Dudley Grant Hays, director of community center in the public schools of Chicago, da clares that "the boy scouts and camp fire girls should have their places for meeting at the schools."

This is a direct point of contact with boys that the school authorities should not overlook. More concrete evidence is coming to the boy that # the superintendent or the principal his teachers have a real interest his welfare outside of school hours it would not fail to be reflected in bet. ter school work.

It is fairly certain from experience with boy scouts who have been al. lowed the use of public halls and church rooms and similar places for their meeting rooms and in which to conduct their scout tests and go through the various features of their program as far as it is possible in doors that school buildings will not suffer by such use. On the contrary scouts will be found valuable aids in keeping the premises in good order and in good repair as a result of their partial occupancy.

CHINESE SCOUTS STOP FLOOD

In Peking, China, with the founds. tion of the scout troops at Tsing Hus college, in 1915, began a growth of scouting that has led to its recognition in North China.

In the summer of 1918 the boy couts directed the dike buildi which saved countless lives in the flooded districts of the province of

In addition to this a great variety of good turns stands out in the Chinese scout history. Scouts have sold American Red Cross stamps, made a census of the people of the Tsing Hua community, distributed leaflets against the evil custom of early marriage, and raised funds for the Tientsin flood relief.

During the war scouts did much to make the Chinese troops happy. Checker-boards and joke books were sent to the soldiers in Siberia.

SIAMESE SCOUTS GAIN 6,904.

A total of 9,453 scouts, an increase of 6,904 over the previous year, is reported by the boy scout organization in the Kingdom of Siam. The scout movement is honored by

having for its president His Majesty King Rama VI. Work with boys started here with an organization known as "Wild Tigers," but in 1911 the king authorized the formation of boy scout corps and established a central committee to push the work.

On several occasions Siamese scouts have been reviewed by the king. At his coronation over 2,000 took part in the ceremony. Examinations in the various scout tests have been conducted with surprising success. Of those who took the tests, 66 per cent secondclass scouts passed, while of 1,625 examined, 360 first-class scouts qual-

SCOUTS TO BUILD TRENCHES.

New York is to have a chance to see an exact reproduction of a part of the fighting front in France if the hoy scouts carry out the suggestion made by Maj. Lorillard Spencer of the returned Three Hundred and Sixty-ninth infantry.

Major Spencer, who is scout commissioner of the Manhattan council, said that part of the scouts' camp grounds reminded him exactly of the sector in which his regiment fought in France and he planned to duplicate the trenches and dugouts exactly as soon as the weather permitted. He asked for 150 scouts to receive

instructions in trench and dugout building and to carry out this replica of the first lines over there.

SCOUTS AS HEALTH AGENTS.

To make the boy scouts a part of the St. Paul health inspection force is planned by Dr. B. F. Simon, chief city health officer.

Doctor Simon thinks the boys will be glad to be enrolled in the service and have the duty of reporting to the department any violations of city health regulations.

When a boy scout finds that one of his neighbors is maintaining a nuisance that is menacing the health of the neighborhood, he will be expected to report this to the health office. Then an investigation will be made by regular inspector.

BOY SCOUT DOINGS.

In Detroit a group of hoy cared for a farmer's herd of cattle for a week so as to enable him to attend the bedside of a near relative. Due in a large measure to the work

of boy scouts, Hawaii has gone \$25,000 over the top in the War Savings cam paign. "The boy scouts were a tre mendous factor in accomplishing this record," writes Robert W. S. ngle, ter ritorial director. Scouting is booming in this territory, not only on Oahu, but throughout the islands.