

### The Old Man and His Job.

He had outlived his days of usefulness, everybody said. Younger, quicker, more progressive men were to be had for the taking by the firm that employed John Watson. The man himself heard the talk that was current in the machine room, and because of his very desire to prove that he was not superannuated, grew nervous, made mistakes, although not one in the whole shop was a better master of his trade, or knew more about the business in which he had grown old.

Watson did not consider himself disqualified by age to serve the sons of the man whose employ he had entered when he was younger than these "boy" manufacturers were to-day: but he could not fail to understand the impatience at his slowness manifested by his younger fellow-employees, men whose ability to turn off work he knew was valuable to the firm.

And so every day he grew more and more nervous and clumsy, waiting for the summons to the office, where he would be told that his services were no longer required.

Possibly the sons and successors of the founder of the business noticed the strain under which the old man was seeking to perform his work, for at last the summons came.

A significant look ran around the machine room when the message was delivered; a smile of relief on the part of some, but tinged with pity as the men saw the white, aged face become ghastly during the old man's preparation for meeting the "young bosses." But he, perceiving the eyes that were upon him, straightened himself and left the room with quiet dignity.

As he entered the office, the brothers who had sent for him, and in whose hands his future lay, glanced significantly at each other. They had not realized before how old the man was. Then the elder brother spoke:

"Mr. Watson, you have been with the firm a long time, and—" The old man lifted his head apprehensively, but the other continued: "We know that you are very familiar with the business. We are young men. You used to trot us on your knees, I dare say, if you ever found time from your work—and we have decided to ask you to accept a position where your experiences will be of much service to us. We want to give you a desk in the outer office, but you are to feel free in the outer office, to go anywhere in the factory and see what is going on. Then when any suggestion or idea comes to your mind you will jot it down and submit it to us in writing. Does the plan meet your approval?"

The old man tried to speak, grew faint and clutched at his throat.

The younger brother poured a glass of water for him.

"One thing my brother did not mention," he said, when the old man's faintness had worn away.

"The salary connected with your new work will be somewhat more than you have been receiving. It's near quitting-time now, so you need not go back to the shop, but you can report at your desk in the morning. We hope you will be able to give us a good many suggestions. Good afternoon, Mr. Watson."

Straight and erect the old man walked away, his pulse beating high with pride and happiness. The "bosses" considered his years an asset.

For six months the old man gave himself faithfully and enthusiastically to his new task, and although, of course, he made no sug-

gestions that were revolutionary or absolutely vital, yet, on the whole he brought to the notice of the young men of the firm a great many things it was well and profitable for them to know, and which they never would have known but for him.

Then one morning the employers found the desk unoccupied when they came in. The younger brother took a car which carried him to the old man's home. An old lady answered his knock, her eyes bright with unshed tears.

"He went at midnight, sir," she said, divining who her caller was. "He felt so sorry to leave you in the lurch. When he found he was going he didn't have time to say much, only that, but he said he did not doubt you'd get along somehow and he was glad he'd been able to advise you as long as he had. It's a great comfort to know you've been able to help folks."

The young man walked back to the factory. He felt that he did not wish to ride, but rather to be by himself.

At the office he repeated the old wife's story to his brother and the elder man said: "Well; Hal, it's a comfort to know you've been able to help folks. I'm glad we did it."

### Says Bryan Will carry New York by Over 75,000.

Chairman Conners when asked about the situation in New York State, replied:

"William J. Bryan will carry New York State by from 65,000 to 100,000 votes. Bryan is the strongest Democrat in New York today. We will carry Erie, Niagara, Chango and 15 or 16 other counties. Kings county will roll up a majority and the other borough of Greater New York may be depended upon to add a sufficient Democratic plurality to wipe out the Republican plurality up-State. In my opinion whoever is nominated for governor by the Republicans will not carry the State above Bronx by more than 50,000 or 75,000."

### J. G. Rose, Check-Flasher, Gets Sentence of Three Years.

Hillsboro, Aug. 13.—J. G. Ross, the stranger arrested here Saturday afternoon for attempting to pass a check for \$75 bearing the name of Gen. J. S. Carr, was yesterday tried in Orange Superior Court, Judge Council presiding. Rose in pleading his own cause before the court, stated that the check was given him by a man who gave his name as Williams and who employed him to do certain plumbing work at General Carr's house, and that if the check was a forgery he had no knowledge of it. However, P. C. Collins, cashier of the Bank of Organg, and Thomas A. Corbin, proprietor of the Corbinton Inn, testified that the signature on the check was in the same handwriting as Rose's name on the hotel register, where he took dinner. The jury was out only a short time and brought in a verdict of guilty. He was given three years on the roads.

### Naoma News.

Crops are looking well, fruit plenty and people are making a specialty taking care of it.

Miss Kate Deal, of Lenoir, commenced our school here Aug. 4th, and has a good attendance, about 30. She was much welcomed by the patrons, as she had taught here before and gave satisfaction.

Times is flourishing now. The Ritter Lumber Co. have started and will run on full time until election, any way, then it may be cut off with a four year panic. But live in hope.

I will come again sometime if appreciated. P. M. Aug. 15th, 1908.

### To Amend Judicial Procedure.

New York, Aug. 16.—Courts of appeal will no longer decide either civil or criminal litigation brought before them on purely technical points, but will base their rulings on the merits of the cases, if the recommendations formulated by a special committee of the American Bar Association shall become law.

The committee was appointed by the association at its last annual meeting to suggest remedies and draft proposed laws to prevent delay and unnecessary cost in litigation. Its report will be presented at the annual meeting to be held in Seattle from August 25th to 28th.

It opens with a statement that the existing evil which seems most serious to the committee is the disposition in many jurisdictions to dispose of appeals, or writs of error, both in civil and criminal cases, upon technical grounds and not to decide them upon the merits. In the judgment of the committee, the rule for deciding appeals and writs of error, should not be based upon reversible error committed in the court below, but upon the merits as the case appears upon the record.

Continuing, the report calls attention to the fact that the tendency of the courts in common law cases is to construe adherence to strict legal rules as the right of each party, and to reverse if there has been any infraction of these rules.

"This makes the trial of a case a game," declared the committee, "in which the one wins who plays the most skilfully, the merits of the controversy have no part."

The unrestricted right to a writ of error in criminal cases is characterized by the committee as a flagrant abuse in judicial procedure.

"These writs," the committee add, "are constantly sued out solely for delay. The punishment of notorious criminals thus is constantly being postponed in violation of every principle of justice.

This is especially flagrant in the suing out of writs of error from the Supreme Court of the United States to review the decision of highest courts of criminal jurisdiction in the several States. We recommend that no writ of error returnable in criminal cases to the Supreme Court of the United States should be allowed unless justice at that court shall certify there is probable cause to believe that the defendant was unjustly "convicted."

### Girl Seized Shark.

London Express.

Milena Sgambelli, a Dalmatian fishergirl, was bathing near Zara with other girls when two sharks rushed into the midst of them.

Milena ran to the beach, on which she found an iron rod. Seizing this, she rushed boldly into the water again, striking at the sharks with the rod in order to save her companions.

She overbalanced herself and fell at full length in the water, when one of the sharks seized her leg in its mouth and bit it off above the knee. Her companions dragged Milena out, but she died from loss of blood.

Governor Glenn has appointed J. D. Murphy, of Asheville, to fill the unexpired term of Judge Moore, who died lately. Mr. Murphy has accepted the appointment. He is said to be a fine man, a Christian gentleman in every sense of the word. Mr. Murphy will hold the appointment until the next general election, in November, next.

Religion may be the sail, but Christianity is the rudder.

### Tribute to Mr. Cleveland.

Chicago Tribune.

Kr. William J. Bryan described, in an article in Collier's some of the qualifications of the model President. He says he should have "moral courage." He should be able "to detect the sophistries" that are always employed by "special interests" seeking "unfair advantage." He should look on himself as "committed by his platform to certain principles, and those principles are binding."

Mr. Bryan could have given life and emphasis to his observations by mentioning a President—a Democratic one at that—who possessed these presidential qualifications in ample measure. Few occupants of the White House have equaled Grover Cleveland in moral courage. He was an intense party man. He gloried in its defeats. But he had the moral courage to stand up against his party when it went mad over free silver. He knew that he would be excommunicated, that most Democrats would vilify and curse him, and that his course would contribute to the defeat of his party. Yet he never faltered. Mr. Bryan never has favored the public with any manifestation of a moral courage approaching that.

Cleveland was able "to detect the sophistries" of the silver-mine owners and dishonest debtors who hankered after 50-cent dollars. He was not to be moved by the appeals of "special interests" for free silver legislation.


The platform on which Mr. Cleveland was elected in 1892 pledged the party to the maintenance of "the equal power of every dollar at all times in the markets and in the payment of debts." President Cleveland kept that pledge, though it called for much selling of bonds and buying of gold—all contrary to Mr. Bryan's wishes. Cleveland incurred great odium in many quarters because he kept the faith, but he had that moral courage which Mr. Bryan says a moral President should be endowed with.

### Negro Murders His White Wife.

Asbury Park, N. J., Aug. 18.—Hattie Scott, the white wife of Randolph Riley, a negro, was killed by her husband last night after a quarrel. The woman fought desperately for a razor in the hands of the infuriated negro and exerting all her strength she finally got the razor blade in her hand, but the negro drew a second knife and gashed the woman's throat. The woman secured a revolver and shot the negro in the stomach. Both in the death agony rolled down a flight of stairs clinched in each others arms. The woman died in an hour. The negro man is alive but no chance for his living.

The Rabbit Foot Comedy Company, a negro minstrel troop, composed of about twenty-five negroes, gave their show at Shelby, N. C., last Friday night. They loaded everything into the cars, so as to leave next morning, and all went to sleep. About 8 o'clock Saturday morning before any of them were up, one of the horses turned over a can of gasoline, which ran down the car to a stove, which was hot, and caused an explosion. All the show furnishings were burned, several of the men were badly burned, and some of them may die. Two horses were burned to death and others left in bad shape. Loss to the company is \$10,000 to \$20,000. [How that stove came to be hot at 8 o'clock a. m., and no one up, we do not know.—Ed. News.]

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