

**BILKINS WILL START AT AN EARLY DATE.**

Owing to the long and serious illness of the editor of the Enterprise, our special writer, Major Zeke Bilkins, was unable to start on his trip around the world in January, as announced. But he has not given up the trip, and, unless Providentially hindered, will start at an early date, and will write a full account of his trip weekly.

The articles descriptive of this trip will be of more than ordinary educational value, considering the small amount it will cost to read them, and they will be entirely original.

Both old and young people will be interested, for the story will be written in plain language. The descriptions will be pen pictures. You will live and move with Bilkins and see the great world through his eyes. Some of the experiences will probably be of the side-splitting variety.

Mr. Bilkins has had this trip in view for several years and his previous letters might be termed fore-runners of it.

Mr. Bilkins will tour England, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, India, Africa, Denmark, Sweden, Turkey, Morocco, Holland, and other European kingdoms in that portion of the world; also Russia, China, Japan, the Philippine Islands, and other countries in the Far East.

Comparatively few people have gone around the world. In most instances they have hurried through the trip, getting only casual glimpses of the various countries from the beaten paths of travel. Mr. Bilkins will travel leisurely and take in the interior as well as the principal cities of each country. He will hobnob with monarchs; but he will also go down among the masses and see how they live, and dispense advice where he thinks it is needed. Doubtless Bob will be the centre of attraction in many countries where the American mule is unknown. His eccentricities will play an important part in the articles.

Bilkins will hunt lions and tigers in Africa and elephants in India, shooting them from Bob's back. He will spend some time with the Sultan of Turkey and try to learn why he is the greatest lady's-man since the days of Solomon.

A special and most interesting feature of the series of articles will be exhaustive descriptions of Egypt, Jerusalem, Palestine, and other lands and cities anciently familiar to Bible students, but about which so little is known to-day, owing to their lack of commercial importance. Bilkins will trace up old family history and relics back to the days of Adam and Eve.

At some time during the tour Mr. Bilkins will make an attempt to reach the North Pole. In fact, that is the height of his ambition. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been lost and many lives sacrificed in attempts to reach the North Pole, but it seems impossible owing to the extreme cold. Bilkins professes to believe that Bob can make the trip, regardless of ice and snow. Doubtless the stories of his experiences will be thrilling.

Of course, we cannot go into de-

tails. Suffice it to say that these articles will be genuinely descriptive and historically true even though they will not be written in a serious vein. Mr. Bilkins will be given plenty of latitude, and he will write in his peculiar style. But we can safely promise that the reader will know far more about foreign lands, the peculiar customs of the natives, their good and bad points, their past, present and future, a year from now than he or she knows to-day, and the stories will be interspersed with quaint expressions, odd experiences and thrilling narratives which will tend to relieve them of all dullness.

As a writer, Zeke Bilkins has occupied an humble and modest position. Society has never set its seal of approval upon his work. The great literary critics who can make and unmake writers are blissfully ignorant of his existence; fate hath decreed it so.

But Bilkins has a small but growing coterie of friends who read his letters regularly, and refuse to be comforted without them. This little army consists of boys and girls from five to ninety years of age. Among the number who may be classed as admirers of his letters, on their testimony, we believe it safe to say that there are more boys and girls from eight to fifteen years of age who can come nearer repeating verbatim one of his letters written perhaps one or two years ago than any other writer can claim in proportion.

This goes to show that his work is natural and impressive, though far from brilliant.

The trip around the world will begin soon, and will continue for a year, or longer. Those who care to read it should send a dollar for a year's subscription to the Enterprise at once. If your subscription is about to expire, you should renew promptly. If you have been a subscriber, now is the time to renew. Do not miss the first letter.

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