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Arkansaw

He Was a Gentleman of the Southwest.

By F. A. MITCHEL

When boys' summer camps were first established in the United States, at one of them, located insnorthern New England, were two boys who were chums. They were the very antipodes of each other. Both were of the older boys at the camp, being between seventeen and eighteen. Frank Winton hailed from Connecticut. He was intellectual and spiritual. Those who knew him best predicted for him a marked career in some intellectual pursuit, probably the church. Edward Davis was from Arkansas and a typical southerner.' He was long of limb, large boned and muscular. He was two years behind his chum in fitting for college.

Each was in his way a leader of other beys. Frank Vinton was usually intrusted with the management of the entertainments got up at the camp and was recorder. His camp journal was beautifully written. Davis, who was universally called Arkansaw, led the hikes, the canceing, the swimming-in fact, all the sports. Naturally the boys, who placed strength and daring above intellect, admired him more than But Arkansaw ranked himself far below his chum. What we sess we do not value; what we lack we covet. Arkansaw saw no merit in his diving from a platform elevated forty feet, above the sufface of the water or being able to throw any boy in the camp. He would have given his strength and daring for the ability learn Latin grammar, which was be-yond his intellectual endowment. For this reason, perhaps, he was pleased at his intimacy with the intellectual Vinton.

When the season was ended and the campers went home the chums regretted that they could not enter college in the same class. Vinton had passed his entrance examination, but Davis had still a long period of study before him. When Vinton became a junior Davis became a freshman. Of course he entered the same college as Vinton. Notwithstanding that they were two years apart in the college curriculum they were still chams. Naturally their associates wondered what was the tie that bound the brawny southwesterner and the polished New Englander. The truth is, persons don't usually make friends with their counterparts. They generally seek what they are not them-

Vinton graduated with high honors, and while his chura was struggling through the last two years in college he was studying for the ministry. The Arkansan

selves.



Mr. Rhodes' eyes were fixed upon

this paper long enough to have read it a dozen times. He was thinking what

to do. He was no coward and resolved to try to dominate the man who seem

ed disposed to interfere in his affairs.

"I don't know who is the lady to whom you refer, but if you intend to

drag any lady into a quarrel you are contemptible."

"There is no necessity for dragging the lady's name into a quarrel. I have

"Hew do you propose to compel me?"

"There is but one way I can compel

you without injuring others. If you

public place and insult you. I am not

known in this city, and no one will sup-

pose that my real motive is to prevent

your bringing ruin upon my friend, his

There was something so quietly de-

termined in the southerner's manner that his adversary saw there was no

escape for him. What his course would have been had he not had all to lose

and nothing to gain no one knows, but

he saw that this man was saving him

"I must communicate my reasons to

-to the lady for my action," he said

Davis left with the pledge duly sign-

ed and, going to his hotel, departed on the next train.

The Christmas festivities had passed

when Mrs. Vinton said to her husband:

the holidays this year, dear, and are

tired out. Suppose we run down south for the cold season."

"You have been overworked during

wife and his children."

from himself and yielded.

"That is admissible."

"In what direction?"

after pondering.

refuse I shall seek you out in some

not mentioned her in his paper."

"Suppose I refuse to sign it?" "You shall sign it."

He turned upon Davis fiercely.

"Is this a case of blackmail?" "You know that it is not."

It read:

.ve or six years after with Vinton he resolved to go north for a visit, taking in his old chum by the way. The truth is he had learned to love the north in sumed to get back into the northeastern territory where he could enjoy the cool woods and waters.

GUIDE-ADVOCATE, WATFORD, FEBRUARY 23, 1917

One Saturday evening a lanky man with a strong southern accent registered at a hotel in the city where Frank Vinton was rector of the most fashionable church. Edward Davis was the name entered, and his residence was Arkansas. Sunday morning he went to the church in which his old chum preached. He noticed that the congre-gation was made up of the elite and all were dressed in the height of fashand the rector preached the sermon.

Arkansaw, gazing for the first time in several years on his old chum, saw that he had grown sleek and parted his bair in the middle. His sermon was on the value of a correct interpretation of the Scriptures, and his interpretation of certain passages pertaining to riches were very comforting to his congregation. Arkansaw was slightly disappointed in his friend's development, but his heart was still with the man who had been his chum till the spell-on his chum's part-had been broken by marriage. At the end of the service he waited at the church door for the rector and his family to come out. Winton on seeing him grasp-ed his hand cordially, but Mrs. Vinton could not conceal a look of annoyance. Arkansaw was dressed in southwestern costume. His hat did not shine as did the rector's, for the latter was of silk, while Arkansaw's was of felt, with a very wide brim.

"Come to my study tomorrow," said Vinton. "This is, of course, a busy day with me. Monday is for us of the cloth our day off. I shall expect you by 9 o'clock.' Then Vinton was hurried away by

his wife lest he should be seen talking to the rawboned Arkansan. Davis rather expected his old chum to take him home with him to dinner.

"We might make a call upon your d friend Mr Davis

THIS WORLD CROWDED? paper on the desk before Mr. Rhodes. From this day I agree to forego any association with a lady to whom I have been paying marked attention, never again to call upou her at her house or to join her elsewhere.

Why, Lake Champlain, Frozen, Would Easily Hold All Its People.

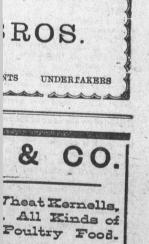
There are on this globe about 1,500, 000,000 inhabitants. Most of us, who lack the sense of proportion, at the mention of this big number are apt to speak of the "overpopulation" of the world. Yet if we spare a few moments thought we shall better know what this represents. There is in my study room a geographic globe about fifteen inches in diameter. On that sphere there is marked a little spot about the size of the point of a pencil-at any rate, so small as to make it impossible to write the initials of its name-Lake Champlain-upon it.

Yet whenever Lake Champlain freezes over there is good standing room for every one of all the inhabitants of the earth, and then this lake would be considerably less crowded than some of the busy streets of New York. Indeed, strange as it may sound. every one, young and old, would find about one square yard to stand upon. Nay, more, if the very young and the very old would please to stand aside on the shores of the lake the remainder of the total inhabitants of the world could arrange a skating party where there would be less crowding than is seen on a busy winter day on that skat ing pond in New York's Central park. Sketching the picture is like visualiz-ing the great tragedy of the human race-the few people of this earth de not begin to realize their immense opportunities and their unused resources; meanwhile they have the insane feel-ing that the world is "overpopulated." All our science, our religion, our art have not given us common sense enough to learn how to use them to live comfortably and happily-we, this mere handful of inhabitants on this immense world of ours. Nor does it look as if we were going to get to our, senses before many generations to come as long as we keep on muddling and blundering, as long as greed and vanity, lust for power, the main inheritance of the aims and thoughts of the

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Feeding and Fighting

Germany is living on 30 per cent. per capita of what it was consuming before the war. But England is consuming, feeding and fighting to the extent that her physical force is increased by far more than 30 per cent. The whole nation is fighting, men, women and children, There is nothing else thought of, talked of, or worked for, throughout the whole count-ry. O'All the leisure classes, men and women, are one way or another in the war. Women are joining in the ranks of labor and all labor is to-day for the country with everything in production, trade and commerce locked it the war issue.

Matrimony may be synonymous with he had parted

was wanted or varsity crew, on the varsity football and base-ball teams, but he could not be induced to train with any of them. He had as profound a contempt for muscular as he had reverence for intellectual strength.

Davis pulled through college, being graduated among the "dregs," as he called them, of his class. Vinton studied theology at his alma mater, so that their intimacy was not inter-rupted. When Davis finished his academical course Vinton was admitted to orders, having taken a three years' course in two. They said goodby to each other, Davis with more regret than his friend, who by this time was beginning to feel the difference be-tween them, for the clergyman belonged to an aristocratic family and was engaged to a society belle. She had met Davis and wondered what her lover could see in him to admire. Perhaps this is the main reason why Vinton parted with his chum without the regret that was to have been ex-

Davis inherited an estate that rendered him independent of work, but it would have been impossible for him to be idle. An office in the gift of the people of his state becoming vacant and it being desirable that a man not stained with political iniquity should be elected, Davis was waited on by a committee from both parties who asked him to run for the office, promising him a sure election. He was too dum-founded for awhile to reply, then said that a better man than he was needed for the duties involved. But the comand left him assuring him that he would be elected whether he ran or

This was the beginning of a political career that was thrust upon Davis, but it lasted only a short time, for he be-came disgusted with politics, and when his friends proposed to nominate him for an important state office he flatly refused.

One summer fi

Vinton did not dare to do so since he knew the guest would be frozen out by his wife. So the man from the south west was thrown upon his own re-sources for the rest of the day. After dinner he sat smoking in the hotel office. A gentleman sitting near opened conversation with him.

Before parting with this person Davis learned a disagreeable truth. There was a skeleton in the rectory of Vinton's church. Mrs. Vinton was accepting the attentions of a man of fashion. The congregation would have already brought the matter before the vestry except for their attachment to their rector, who was the only person that appeared to be ignorant of the situation.

The next morning Davis and Vinton met in the rector's study. Vinton, now that he was alone with his old chum, relansed into the chum of former days. But there was no invitation to the rectory. Mrs. Vinton had put her veto on Arkansaw.

"How long will you stay here, Ark?"

asked the rector. "I'm not decided about my going. I may be here a day or two, and I may go suddenly, so I'll say goodby in case I don't see you again." Vinton pressed his friend's hand.

Davis saw that there was something on his mind, but could not fathom it. The same afternoon the tall south-erner appeared at the office of one T. Robinson Rhodes and sent in his card. The office boy who delivered it returned with the inquiry as to the nature of the caller's business.

"Private," was the reply. The boy went back and presently returned with the words "Come in" and led the visitor to the office door. Davis saw a man dressed in the height of fashion sitting at a rosewood desk. Looking about to see that they were alone, the southerner closed the door and turned the key. Mr. Rhodes looked at him in surprise. "What do you want with me, sir?"

he said. "Sign that." replied Davis, laying a

Vinton looked searchingly at his wife.

"As you like," he said. When Arkansaw next saw his old chum he was greeted with fervor by his chum's wife. She gave no explana tion for the change, but the Dixie man knew that he had saved her from s grievous misfortune. From that day she also was his chum.

Hoaxed the Naturalist.

One of the most remarkable books ever published is the "Lithographia Wirceburgensis," written by a Wurz-burg naturalist named Behringer in 1726. Probably very few copies are in existence, as the author destroyed all that he could get possession of soon after the book appeared. He had been victimized by some practical jokers, who had made a great variety of artificial "fossils" and hidden them in a quarry, to which they then enticed the professor. Behringer was overloved by so rich a find and had no suspicion of the trick, although many of the fossils were of a very grotesque character. He took his treasures home, made elaborate drawings of them and wrote a minute description of each, as well as an exhaustive commentary filled with ingenious and plausible theories. When he had published the book the jokers confessed, and then, of course, the professor did his utmost to sup press the work.

Mortified.

"I never was so mortified in my life

"What's the matter now?" "You know that little gown I bought for \$16.50 that looked as though it must have cost four times that and was so becoming to me? I never dreamed any one would guess its price or where I bought it." "Well, did any one?"

"Yes. I wore it for the first time last night at a dinner dance, and there were just sixteen other women there with gowns exactly like it."

Catherine Conten Same and Spranner a surface

past, together with some of our time honored traditions, keep us in the cold, relentless grip of bygone ages.-From "Renewing the Earth From the Air," by L. H. Baekeland, in Scribner's

SENSE OF DIRECTION.

A Help In Finding Your Bearings at Night Without a Compass.

An English survivor of the South African war who was often sent on long distance night reconnaissances has worked out a system whereby any one can be right at home in the dark without compass or other instrument to aid the sense of direction. He worked out the exact movement and direction of the largest and most easily distin-guished lights in the heavens so that the least scientific eye can recognize these signs by sight, and the whole dome of the heavens becomes a vast compass.

If there were fire balloons or beacons, placed in the heavens north, east, south and west it would be easy for any one to go in these directions by simply fol-lowing the signs. Similarly, if one wished to go, say, a hand's breadth to the right or left of the beacons one could easily do so. The largest stars in the heavens can be depended upon in the same way.

"If you put the front buttons of your coat on the north star or other direction stars," writes this authority, "your right and left breasts give you an angle of 45 degrees from the stars and your shoulders a right angle. Also, it is only a matter of a little practice to be able to measure 15 degrees, of horizon with your hand, so you can get any number of degrees to the right or left of your direction stars, and aft-er a little practice it becomes second nature to recogonize the points of the compass at sight, and you acquire the Arabs and people who live far away from civilization." - Popular Science Monthly,

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