# "Old Ready."

John won his odd title when he was a small patient in the children's ward of the Samarian Hospital. His broken arm was not yet out of the sling betere he was helping Nurse Romaine care tor the other children, and the children straightway hit upon this name that fitted him so perfectly, "Old Ready." That was ten years ago, and he was still in the hospital. The broken arm got well speedily, but before that happened it was found that the willing worker could not be spared.

First he was put on the rolls as errand boy, but he soon outworked these narrow limits and was promoted to higher responsibilities. Step by step he had come up

was sent for to save life.

In front of the Albermarle hotel, fialf a square from the hospital, he got footing broken arm got well speedily, but before that happened it was found that the willing worker could not be spared.

First he was put on the rolls as errand boy, but he soon outworked these narrow limits and was promoted to higher responsibilities. Step by step he had come up and up since then; the position he held now it would be hard to define exactly, for he found work to do, and plenty of it, in every department of his reach. That had been the case all along; the thing that needed doing was the thing be took in hand, asking no questions, waiting for no bidding. He was still Old Ready to all in the hospital, from Dr. Dllis, the chief surgeon, down.

Promotion is a pleasant thing for boy or man; all the pleasanter for John because his mother, hard at work in the mill. and

Promotion is a pleasant thing for boy or man; all the pleasanter for John because his mother, hard at work in the mill, and his sister Katy, the busy little house-keeper, had such pride and delight in his advancement. He had a hope of making them prouder still; a day, not on the cal endar yet, shone away off in the future; the day that should advance him to the interest of his ambition, the position of of his ambition, the position of steward. He was studying hard

assistant steward. He was studying hard to fit himself for that. In the fury of a winter storm, when the bitterest night of half a century was settling upon the world, John was shut up in his room, studying as hard as he had worked all der Unless specially summoned, he room, studying as hard as he had worked all day. Unless specially summoned, he need not open his door again that night. He heard the ambulsnce arriving with a new case, and he heard the bearers carry the litter into the children's ward.

'Poor little sou!' he muttered. 'I hope it isn't a case of freezing' A glow of thankfulness warmed him; Katy, snug and warm at home, was in no danger of freezing. 'Right sort of night for that, though.' It was indeed the 'right sort of night for

ing. Right sort of night for that, the lit was indeed the 'right sort of night for that.' The air was thick with a driving white mist; the ambulsnoe was like a snow-drift on wheels; the litter-bearers, and the troubled mother beside them, plunged through deep snow as they came up the steps. In a moment the men were out again and the ambulance was driven away; again and the amoutance was direct away, already there had been another call. John, seeing nothing of all this, only knowing of it by the sounds, went on with his studying. Doctor Steel and Nurse Romaine could deal with a case of freezing without his

True, but this was not a case of freezing,

Then the crushing climax came, the form on the cot before them had been cruelly torn by machinery.

'I was working late, and she had just come from the house, bringing me my supper,' the poor mother explained, wringing her hands. 'I was telling her she shuldn't have done that in all the storm, though it's but round the corner, and while I was saying it, and while she was laughing and making light of the storm—she's always so brave and good!—the belt caught her somehow, and—oh dear! doe an save her to me!

'Only one man in the state can do that,' said Doctor Steele, after a swift examination. 'Ellis can, if we can get him here. We must get him, for the case is beyond me.'

He hurried out into the hall, John, in his room, heard him giving a sharp order.

Then the crushing climax came, the stunning hopeless word was spoken. An other messenger, coming in a sleigh with horses enough to drag it through drifts house high, had found Doctor Ellis first, and had carried him quite out of reach. Carried him where? To the Albemarle Hotel—to within half a square of poor John's starting place.

What to do now? Even John confessed that he could not possibly corquer again those terrible drifts; his feet might have been lead for all the life or teleiphone connection! Off to the nearest telephone station, then. If the wires were not working, then indeed he must give up; but even do now? He must give up the him and strengled up the house high, had found Doctor Ellis first, and had carried him quite out of reach. Carried him where? To the Albemarle Hotel—to within half a square of poor don's starting place.

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in two minutes he was out in the hall, looking like an Arctic explorer. Negley was taking his comfort, with no notion of going out except under stronger pressure. He grinned derisively at sight of the high boots and the fur cap, but a fellow who would volunteer to go out in such a sterm as this was worth seeing under the circum-

stances. 'Good for you? This lets me out!' he 'Good for you? This lets me out!' he remarked, and instantly he slipped off to a warm corner, quite out of everybody's way. Just in time, for Doctor Steel had bounced out again to put spurs to his lag ging messenger. He saw John, laughed in huge relief, took everything for granted at once, and forthwith gave his orders.

'Ready, I want you to find Doctor E lis. I don't know where he is, and reports at

I don't know where he is, and nobody at his house knows, but find him. Tell him

to come here without losing a minute, to save life. Tell him that—to save life.'

On his way out, John saw Nurse Romaine knocking at the door of his room. She saw him at the same, and hurried to him.

'I was after you to come into the ward,' she said, 'but if you are going after Doctor Ellis that will be better. You will say so yourself when—afterward. Much better, for you will find him.' She opened the door for him, and the blast swept him

She shut the door and went back to the ward. 'It is a cruel thing, all round,' she said to herself, 'but this is the kindest part of it all. No pocket can held the wage of

come out to battle with! He was full of life, and he loved a sharp tussle with the weather, but there was something too much of this. The intense cold found him out through all his warm clothing, and that in spite of all resistance. Those were triffes that did not count; he could fight the wind and the fight would keep him warm; the snow was the only thing he really feared, it hindered him so. Ot course he could master that the worst of the deeping drifts, if he had time, but there was the trouble; time was a precious thing when Doctor Ellis was sent for to save life.

In front of the Albermarle hotel, half a square from the had been crowned his name was strick-en from the record of kings. Even a pretender acquired a quasi title to the kingdom if by force of strategem he could master that did not count; he could fight the wind and the fight would keep him warm; the snow was the only thing he really feared, it hindered him so. Ot course he could master the worst of the deeping drifts, if he had time, but there was the trouble; time was a precious thing when Doctor Ellis was ent for to save life.

In front of the Albermarle hotel, half a square from the hospital, he got footing

the doctor had been there and had gone off to one of his may 'poor cases,' in Prince Street. That was alar off, and John could get there only on toot. No matter, the clue led there, and he followed the clue with a light heart and perfect confidence.

He followed the trail to Beppo's house in Prince Street; then to Sullivan's house in Rose Street; then here, there and every where Doctor Ellis, great surgeon and

in Rose Street; then here, there and every where. Doctor Ellis, great surgeon and physician as he was was at the call of who soever had need of him, night or day. So for half the night as it seemed to him, the weary messenger pursued the chase through the hindering drifts, never losing the trail of the man he tracked, but never

the trail of the man he tracked, but never coming nearer to him.

The storm grew worse, if that were possible. Even on wind swept spaces the snow was more than ankle deep; in other places the boy must labor through drifts that swallowed him to the waist. Everywhere he must fight his own way; not a car was moving, and no vehicle or horse was to be had. He tried to whistle as he planced onward but the wind outmatched plunged onward but the wind outmatched bim at that and drove the whistle down his throat. That was just as well, for his whisting had but little spirit in it. He acknowledged to himself that the fight had become rather received. acknowledged to nimself that the fight had become rather wearing. In truth it was cruelly hard, and the long fierce struggle was telling fearfully at last even on his sturdy young strength. He was cold now, terribly cold, and he never in his life had been so tired. He would not confess it, but by this time all of him was exhausted except his courage and his will.

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Then the crushing climax came, the stunning hopeless word was spoken. Another messenger, coming in a sleigh with horses enough to drag it through drifts house high, had found Doctor Ellis first, and had carried him quite and a carried him.

He hurried out into the hall, John, in his room, heard him giving a sharp order to Negley, the night messenger, then he heard Negley, as usual, piling up difficulties in the way of what he was told to do.

'I'm willin' enough to start out and try if, doc. If you can tell me where to go, lill go, but you say yourself there ain't ne clue to follow. And to go wadm' round through all this snow on a wild goose chase why—'

'Stop your grumbling and go!' With that fierce growl the doctor strode back in to the ward.

John needed no more calling than this; in two minutes he was out in the hall, leavered himself broad awake. Somebody must help came the first time, he fell down. He got his frozen feet under him and struggled up the stroker for to fall back helpless into a try difference grown, is a dezzling mass of the state crown, is a dezzling mass of the state crown is the state crown, is a dezzling mass of the state crown is comes. The ties the st

wrenched himself broad awake. Somebody must help him to the telephone station!

A sound, more welcome than any he had ever heard, reached him. Not far away an ambulance bell was clanging. He shouted again and again, lustily as in his best days. Men answered him, and presently the Brotherhood ambulance was there beside him. Another minute, and he was in the ambulance, with warm blankets

about him.
'Wouldn't bother you, only for the kink in my leg.' He croaked the words feebly enough, but with all his old cheery pluck.

enough, but with all his old cheery pluck.

Off with you now, quick as you can!
Must telephone—Doctor Ellis—save—life

Oh, keep me awake!

The flash of energy had died out already
and the fatal drowniness beset him again
with a power he could not resist. His
rescuers knew the tull meaning of those
words, 'To seve life,' and desperate as his
own case might be, they must help him do
his errand. With merciful cruelty they
shook and scolded him till he found himself in the warmth and light of the telephone station.

'Give me Albemarle Hotel.'
Rallying all his forces, he waited for the

'Give me Albemarle Hotel.'
Rallying all his forces, he waited for the test calls. He looked up at the cffi e clock and was sure it had stopped. From the story it told he had been away from the hospital not much more than two hours. For a wonder the wires were working and the call was answered. Then, with all the voice he could muster, he himself called for Doctor Ellis. Doctor Ellis spoke back to him.

said to herself, 'but this is the kindest part of it all. No pocket can held the wage of the willing worker, and I pray it may be paid to him in tull?

What a storm this was that John had

steward! Oh yes, that's what it is, dating from last night! Good-by.'

John forgot all the pain. Assistant steward! The great dream of the tuture had come true in a night! To his great surprise he dropped off to sleep thinking about it.

Later Nurse Romaine was there, crying over him and kissing his swollen and blistered there. Your mather would have

over him and kissing his swollen and blistered face. 'Your mother would have come, dear,' she explained, wiping her eyes, 'but she is at our hospital with—with her. O John! It was hard to send you to away from her, and she so dreadfully hurt, and calling for you all the time, but what could we do? That was the only chance of saving her. Only Doctor Ellis could do what had to be done, and only you could be trusted to find him. Your mother agreed that it would be best not to excite you and worry you before you startexcite you and worry you before you start-ed. Besides, your heart would have been balf broken to leave her. You two did save her, and that is the great thing, isn't it?'

'But—who?' John whispered, in troubled perplexity. 'Not—it couldn't have been Katy!'

Nurse Romaine put her face tenderly against his. 'Ksty, yes, dear, You earned her lite last night, my willing worker. She will live and be well, but she would have died only for you, John.'
So the wage of the willing worker was paid in full to John, as Miss Romaine had prayed. All the promises of hope were made good to him, and the assistant steward of the Samaritan Hospital is as happy as he is busy, which is saving much.

KING EDWARD'S BEST CROWN. It Is a Jewelry Shop All by Itself, and Its Cost Was \$1,800,000.

At the coronation of King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra four crowns will be used. The chief one, known as Queen Victoria's crown, will be the one actually used in the ceremony of crowning the king the second one will be used in crowning the queen consort, and the other two will be worn by their majesties during the services following the actual crowning.

These, together with the sword of state, the scentres and coronation ring, all taken from the tower by order of the Earl Mar shal of England, are in the custody of the Dean of Westminister during the corona-

The Queen Victoria crown, also called

crown weighs only thirty nine ounces. It was made in 1838 for Queen Victoria's coronation from jewels taken from old crowns, and is valued at \$1,800,000. The cap is of crimson velvet lined with white silk, and has an ermine border.

It is not the most costly royal crown in Europe; that distinction is asserted for the crown belonging to Portugal, which is valued at \$8 000.000. The crown which He represents the smallest outlay is that of Roumania. It is made out of a bit of old

cannon captured at Plevna. The most beautiful crown is that of the King of Denmark. It is simple in design but of artistic workmanship, the leaves by which the circlet is surmounted being curved and veined by precious stones, and each leaf ornamented by a magnificent

jewel. The oldest crown in Europe, which is also the smallest, measuring only six inches in diameter, is the iron crown of Lom-

bardy. The one crown which is distinguished as the sacred crown is that of Hungary. It is revered by the people, being regarded as a palladium. Two nobles of ancient lineage and a troop of halberdiers guard it night and day in the Castle of Buda, where

sapphire of matchless beauty also adorns the imperial crown of Austria.

The crown most decorated with emblem is that of the German Emperor. It has the figure of an eagle, four diamond crosses tour hoops supporting a globe and this surmounted by another cross.

The potentate who possesses most rowns is the Pope, eight at least being stored at the Vatican. Manylot them are simply gitts and have no special signifi-cance. Napoleon I. was the donor of one to Pius VII. This is the handsomest one ot all, having a beautiful emerald. A Queen of Spain was the donor of another. The principal papal crown is a triple

In Spain and Belgium the crown doe not figure in the coronation services. The feature of the ceremony in both countries consists in the King's swearing to preserve the Constitution and laws of the country. Nor is it a matter of course that a Czar should be crowned, though Nicholas and his consort were crowned with great pomp at Moscow. The Czar being a religious as well as a temporal lord, the crown in shape is modelled after a bishop's mitre. Again, in this case, a sapphire is the most beautiful stone in the crown. There are five diamonds resting on a magnificent ruby, which form the cross surmounting the crown.

Outside of Europe the crown becomes a rarity. The Sultan, for example, possesses no crown, coronation being unknown in Turkey. In place of this is substituted the investiture of the monarch with the sword of Othman. The sabre is girt around the Sultan with the words: 'Take' Morristowa, Mar 1, Levi Alzerena Fox, 1 around the Sultan with the words: 'Take it with faith for ye have received it from God.

The Shah of Persia has a crown, if such it can be called, which is variously described as resembling a flower pot and a bonnet. The small end is open, the other closed. It is made of cloth of gold, with strings of hanging precious atones, with here and there tults of feathers, ornamented by diamonds, rubies, emeralds and pearls. At the top is set what is perhaps the greatest ruby in the world. an uncut absolutely flawless stone as large as a hen's

LOSS OF APPETITE AND GENERAL DEBILITY are quickly overcome by the use of a few bottles of "The D. & L." Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil. Manufactured by the Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

#### BORN.

Halifax, to the wife J F Day, a son. Halifax, Mar II, to the wife of F J Carew, a son. Bishopville, Feb 4, to the wife of James Eye, a son. Pembroke, Mar I, to the wife of L W Lantz, a son.

Halifax, Mar 1, to the wife of Wm C Bauld, a Parrsboro, Mar 1, to the wife of Nelson Phinney, Halifax, Mar 7, to the wife of Capt J A Willett, a

Lawrence. Mass, Feb 28, to the wife D M Spence, a Halifax, Mar 7, to the wife of Capt J A Willett, a St John, Mar 8, to the wife of Geo Thompson, a

Windsor, Mar 8, to the wife of Milledge Eason, s daughter.

Guines, Feb 22, to the wife of John O'Brion, a daughter. Leeke's Lake, Feb 19, to the wife of Charles Mor-ris, a son.

Clark's Harbor, Feb 15, to the wife of John Bran-nes, a son. Parraboro, Feb 25, to the wife of George McLellan, a daughter. New Glasgow, Mar 1, to the wife of Frank Mc-Gregor, a son. Port Hawkesbury, Mar 4, to the wife of Freeman Embree, a son.

Vancouver, B C Mar 4, to the wife of Wellsley Davison, a son. Dartmouth, Mar 3, to the wife of Ronald Mac-Donald, a daughter.

#### MARRIED.

Hantsport, Feb 28, J F Dalton to Alice Smith, Lunenburg, March 6, W.T. Ernst, to Ida Kaulbach Truro, Feb 27, Thus Cameron to Mrs Mary Brown. Truro, Feb 27, John Heson to Elizs Ann Chisholm. Yarmouth, March 4, Mark Kenney, to Etta Kenney. Woodstock, Feb 27, Todd Ritchie, to Retta Grant. Kent, N B. March 5, John Sayles, to Nettie Millen Annapolis, Feb 27, Fred Durland to Maud Berry. Truro, Feb 28, Theodore Cossman, to Sarah C. Rob-

Cumberland, March 5, Gi.bert W. Dryden, to Clara Digby, Feb. 27, Charles Morton to Carrie More-

Annapolis, Feb 27. Fred H Durland, to Maude C Berry. Picton, Feb 27, Rev. Lauchlan MacLean to Sarah Munro. Fredericton, March 6, Joseph Brownell, to Dora-Yaimouth, March 5, Aaron Durkee, to Amy La-Crosby.

Annapolis, Feb 20, Rupert McWhinnie, to Ella-Hudson. Upper South River, Russell Crook to Bessie Phillips. Phillips.

Truro March 4, Harvey J Johnson, to Minnie E. Vincent. Bath, C. Co., Feb 23, Edward Mahany to Della H. Maple View, March 6, Wm, Sadler to Annie O.

Clark's Harber, Feb 27 George Swim to Maggie Crowell. entreville, N B., March 5, Wm C. Boyer to Gussie Wallace. Hantspert, Feb. 28, Fred Frizzle, to Eunice A. Zwicker.

Amherst, March 6, Wm. McMillan, to Martha Mitchell. Goldenville, N. S., Feb 27, Rutus Sweet to Carrie Williams. Dorchester, Mass, Jan 31, W. G Holland to Belle Whitman. Havava, Cuba, Jan. 39, Charles Converse, to Lily McCurdy. River Herbert, Feb 21, Charles Roberts, to Mary Rockwell.

Yarmouth, Feb 19, Rcubin Fitzgerald to Georgina. Fitzgerald.

#### DIED.

Boston, Percy & Goudey, 4. Picton, Feb 21, Wm Fraser, 48. Sydney, Feb 12, Hugh Ross, 65. Picton, Feb 17, Mrs John Hatch.
Digby, Feb 28, Charles Merritt, 13.
E alitax, Feb 28, Alex Adams, 29.
St John, Bessie Viçtoria Green, 14.
Guysboro, Feb 14, Robt Cameron.
Ardoise, Jan 21, Wm McCarthy £6.
Halifax, Mar 8, Walter Obrien, 75.
Crafton, Feb 27, Henry Porter, 70.
Crafton, N. S. Snaar R. Drykes, 61. P ctou, Feb 12, Mrs R Chisholm, 74. Kentville, Feb 22, Alex McInnes, 80 New Ross, Mar 3 Mrs Henry Windrow, 70 Burlington. Kings, Mar 4, David Pinco, 92. Greenwood, Mass, Feb 29, 5 F Setchell, 35-Ardoise, Hants, Feb 23, Mrs R J Davis, 55. Mill Road, Colchester, Jan 12, Letta Rood. San Francisco, Feb 22, James & Hunter, 66. Sometville, Mass, Feb 26, Edward Clarke 61. Memramcook, N B, Silas Crane Charters, 85. Meris omish, Mar 2, Miss Elizabeth Fraser, 74 St John, March 10, Mrs Patrick McGoldrick, 70.
Dorchester, Mass, Feb 10, Thomas J Allen, 52.
Newtonville, Mass, Jan 23, Lydia Morrison, 17. New Glasgow, Mar I, Mary Ann McPherson, 11. New Glasgow, Mar 6, Capt Robt McIntosh, 67. Dorchester, Mass. Feb 21, Percy infant of Mr and Mrs G O Goudey.

ammerville, Hants, Mar 18, Jennie, infant of Mi and Mrs Embert Cowell.

RAILROADS.

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TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN

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The Materni with the Salvat street was the s ocurrence on arose over the the Home to all to visit a dying by those acqu

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