

The King Condor of the Andes

CHAPTER I

A LETTER FROM SOUTH AMERICA

"Got something to show you, Rod, if you'll come up to the house a minute."

"What is it, Phil? You look as proud as if your aunt had just put you into long pants."

"No sarcasm or knickerbockers'll chase you down the street. She says she is going to keep me in these till I'm seventeen—three more months of knee garters," he added only half jokingly. "I told her I was five foot ten and weighed a hundred and sixty without my clothes—and she reminded me they weighed hogs by weight."

The two boys hardly looked like chums, in spite of the fact that they were about the same age—overgrown sixteen—and that the better-dressed one affectionately clutched the arm of