## "THE YELLOW PATH"

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CHAPTER I.

saw Brandon Upton. He had plenty of names besides that, but that was his because he tried to get back there eal name, and so I shall call him. My three times himself, and couldn't make first sight of him comes back to me as it." clear as daylight.

He was shambling up the road from | "Oh Lord! It's the durndest country Quicktown; a tall, thin, yellowish man, a man ever put foot into-ripped and with an uncertain, frightened way split and piled on end, so you could lose

the sleeves of a cut-a-way coat which had once been black, but was now couple of weeks. I reckon-perhaps gray-green from fading, dirt and wear; more. At any rate, when he stuck Tin yet it sat with a sort of spruceness on his shoulders—indeed, there was a hint and crazy as a bedbug. But one thing of the same thing all over Brandon—
is sure; he had thirty ounces of gold
that he was the woeful wreck of what.
in his jeans—a baking-powder can had once been a gentleman. Not that he was the better for that air, God by the bushel, to be sure, but it's good It only marked the distance enough for to try for." he had come down.

he had come down.

He stopped a few rods away from us, which was a strange thing in that country, where you could trust any one you met, and said "Good morning" to you would be afraid to I should think you would be afraid to I should think you would be afraid to you met. We returned the same heartly. A stranger was an event with us. Not for three mouths had not have been stranger was an event with us. Not

a cane.

Then he gave us a flying look. "You gentlemen are placer miners, I suppose?" he asked.

"Thank you very much indeed." He was the biggest beaver colony had one."

we don't raise a color." almighty hard work pushing that team and wagon up hill.

"Here was the biggest beaver colony had one." pose?" he asked. Bill, as the leader of the company, ered yes, that we did a little in that line, to which George added:

'Damn little, just at present.'

feared a trap, but seemed to think bet-

der forty-five-which was so lined and chase. worn. If ever trouble, deserved or un-deserved, had written its name on hu-

Bill, with his great head covered with fine blue eyes turned steadily on the Through a tear in the shirt you could see the white skin and swellmuscles of Bill's right arm, which oked large enough to make a pair of bly.

legs for the other. In the doorway of our cabin stood haughty, fierce and far locking: although, in fact, he was as kind and though, in fact, he was as kind and his friend would follow on our trail, a Nothing would suit George but we

When it came to where quickness and agility counted, we pulled the scales some, and for our weight we George could outlift me, but I could run or jump all around him, and either one of us could have taken that ram-

ing to Bill, asking questions, as I have said: with an off-hand manner enough, yet I couldn't help but feel that he was serving a purpose of his own. Were we sure that the pay on Tin

To which Bill replied, with a laugh, that there could be no doubt of that. 'Well, you are going to a place you

out that?" asked the stranger. "Not on any very strong grounds," "Not on any very strong grounds," answered Bill. "There was once a man around here named Dutch Henry, and tied up until there wasn't a sound place to put another patch on; still it was he fell down an old prospect hole and broke his back. I found him and took care of him until he died. Poor old country. There we could cashe the except the part of the part o care of him until he died. Poor old Henry always was loose in his upper story, and before he passed out, he made me a present of this," Bill pulled his gold sack out of his pocket, slowly untied the thongs, and drew from within a folded piece of wrapping paper. This he spread upon the log and smoothed out.

Country. There we could cashe the extra grub, and turn the horses out to grass until we came back again.

Bill caught up old Tom and Jerry, while George and I greased the wagon, with strips of bacon-fat. Jim gathered up the cook truck and put away the blankets and tent, so we were ready to scarcely a tree on it.

Smoothed out.

wagon, pushing for all we were worth on the up-grades and holding back our best going down. The wagon got away from us for all that on one steep was gold by the bushels in that place—see where the creek (that's that line) where there was sound cloth to see the turn? I can't make out his

to do, unless we jump the country It was the same day that Big Bill Barnes, Long Jim, George Smith and I had make up our minds to quit Tin Cup had make up our minds to quit Tin Cup any stock in his yarn about the largest that we had make up our minds to quit Tin Cup any stock in his yarn about the largest that we had a six of the largest that has not do, unless we jump the country and the largest that has not do, unless we jump the country and the largest that has not do, unless we jump the country and the largest that has not do, unless we jump the country and the largest that has not do. and strike for the Limestone that we amount, because we know Henry, and

"Why not?"

about him, so marked that it was the first thing you noticed.

His skinny hands played out from His grub ran out and he wandered

"Pooh!" snorted Bill. "We don't care

we don't raise a color."

he asked.

as the leader of the company, sed yes, that we did a little in the to which George added: little, just at present."

"said Upton, "played out here,"

"sai "Yep—that's about the size of it," got it in the bank. This man, on the strength of a fool map that meant brimstone. She popped out so sudden that she scared the life out of us, and a report which scarce-that she scared the life out of us, and a re

chase.

For it must be understood that all gold countries have their little lies, and full-grown legends. "Lost Cabin Chair" a look at them."

for it must be understood that all gold countries have their little lies, and full-grown legends. "Lost Cabin a look at them."

Kittens!" cried George. "Let's get with just enough grade to take the pull a look at them." countenance, it was on that of don Upton. I felt sorry for him Claims" exist in every country that has Brandon Upton. I felt sorry for him and suspicious of him in the same thought. He was too weak and broken to be feared, and yet to cunning and furtive to be altogether trusted.

Still he spoke fair and pleasantly, asking about our life and our work, talking as much with his hands as his

Claims' exist in every country that has turned out rich dirt. You can scarcely meet a miner who does not know of some wonderful discovery, all trace of which has afterwards been lost. As a consequence, old-timers look on these yarns with one eye shut. Bill had told the maps turned out rich dirt. You can scarcely meet a miner who does not know of some wonderful discovery, all trace of which has afterwards been lost. As a consequence, old-timers look on these yarns with one eye shut. Bill had told turned out rich dirt. You can scarcely meet a miner who does not know of some wonderful discovery, all trace of which has afterwards been lost. As a consequence, old-timers look on these yarns with one eye shut. Bill had told turned out rich dirt. You can scarcely meet a miner who does not know of some wonderful discovery, all trace of which has afterwards been lost. As a consequence, old-timers look on these yarns with one eye shut. Bill had told turned out rich dirt. You can scarcely meet a miner who does not know of some wonderful discovery, all trace of which as ofter cry, and then!"

The old cat acknowledged her childers can be a look at them!"

The old cat acknowledged her childers can be a look at them!"

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The old cat acknowledged her c

George seconded Bill's offer hospita-

We start to-morrow."

Upton seemed confused. Again he

che of us could have taken that ram-shackle stranger by the feet and snap-ped his head off, as the boys say.

If found the other boys no better pleased when we came to talk captive. You see, we'd never had a it over, but if there is one dog or any little animal to make a fuss oed his head off, as the boys say.

In the meantime the man was talk. It over, but if there is one dog or any little animal to make a luss thing that gets ground into over; and we missed it. We named Mr. Cat "Thomas," and the other fellow a fair chance before the other fellow a fair chance before the other fellow a fair chance before the wagon with an old blanket, where you jump on him. So we dropped Mr. Upton (although we didn't know his

a smoke and a quiet swear.

a smoke and a quiet swear.

Pretty soon Geaorge came out and sat down beside me.

"There's our new pardner and his friend, I reckon," said he, pointing.

"I used to be a great shot playing miggles when I was a kild at school," says he, and then after a bit, "I'd like to stand you on your nead, the might have been handy enough with his tongue when he friend, I reckon," said he, pointing.

We looked, and saw two figures far in the distance. We had utterly formiggles when I was a kild at school," says he, and then after a bit, "I'd like to stand you on your nead, Jimmy, if you use that unpleasant tone handy enough with his tongue when he friend, I reckon," said he, pointing.

We looked, and saw two figures far in the distance. We had utterly forming the stand fifteen miles of hard travels used to me," says he, and then after a bit, "I'd like to stand you on your nead, Jimmy, if you use that unpleasant tone handy enough with his tongue when he friend, I reckon," said he, pointing.

We looked, and saw two figures far in the distance. We had utterly forming the recky.

"I use that unpleasant tone handy enough with his tongue when he friend, I reckon," said he, pointing.

We looked, and saw two figures far in the distance. We had utterly forming the recky.

"Yes, I know," retorted Jim, with a superior smile. "You're always goin' to do things like that, Bill, only sometimes they don't come out as you figger where, eating super, and long a right was a pikestaff that he wasn't hunting for the truth. He might have been handy enough with his tongue when he one," as a pikestaff that he wasn't hunting for the truth. He might have been handy enough with his tongue when he one," as a pikestaff that he wasn't hunting for the truth. He might have been handy enough with his tongue when he one," as a pikestaff that he wasn't hunting for the truth. He might have been handy enough with his tongue when he one," as a pikestaff that he wasn't hunting for the truth. He might have been handy enough with his tongue when he one," said Bill says he, and then after a bit, "I'd like

rat same moon? Rim of makes you that. Makes me feel as it the shering feel near them."

I didn't open my mouth. George was cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was troubling with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting too close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to what was trouble with a cutting to close to feel near them." me. I could see the old stone house feller would want to see," said Jim ed to the boy and thanked him courtewith the lawn in front of it, the road slowly.

The could see the old stone house feller would want to see," said Jim ed to the boy and thanked him courteously.

Bill, but if he once let those big arms ously.

"I didn't mean to, Brando through the pines down to the big ates, and mother in the flowers with Lengthy?" asked Bill. an apron full of blossoms for the din- "I don't know nothing about him exner table. Yes, I saw it very plainly, cept the way he kind of wiggles, and and, my God! I wanted to be there, always when you look at him you find

Murder," he answered simply.

"What! You, George! I don't believe it!" I cried.

Murder," he answered simply.

shaking his head solemnly.

Here George put in with an earnestness that I was such ways," replied Jim
shaking his head solemnly.

"No more do I; but we were all drunk tcgether; there was a row and a dead man—and here I am."

Before I could say a word he shut many a head around this country when enough for to try for."

I saw the stranger's lip twitch as he rhinecaboo we're going on?" he asked fumbled the paper.

I me off. "What do you think of this rhinecaboo we're going on?" he asked in a most matter-of-fact way.

"Aw!" cried Jim, with an impatient wave of his arm. "I ain't cutting at

CHAPTER II

stranger was an event with us. Not for three months had we laid eyes on a human but our own company.

He stood silent for a moment, looking around him, while he tapped the ground with the stick he carried for three in the country. Anybody that wants a shy at Henry's bonanza is welcome—come along with us if you want to—there'll be plenty of good exercise, if you don't raise a color."

"Pooh!" snorted Bill. "We don't care a damn who knows it. We don't own the first red light, and were half-way up Bendigo divide before the sun climbed on top of William's Mountain.

We made a halt at Sweetwater Creek, just above the beaver dam, for it was doned int—meanness—cussedness, and the country of the first red light, and were half-way up Bendigo divide before the sun climbed on top of William's Mountain.

We made a halt at Sweetwater Creek, just above the beaver dam, for it was doned dirt—meanness—cussedness, and done dirt—meanness—cussedness, and We pulled out the next morning at half-breed Sevier, and it's only because

Then we found the kittens-four Limestone country!

name at the time) and turned to our grown lion when anybody came near own plans. Hank Johnson left his team and a piece of freshened bacon when we wagon behind him when he quit Tin offered it to him, and after the second Cup the summer before. They were an | week we had him, he was kind of tame the stranger.

Cup the summer before. They were all awful lot. The poor old horses had just the stranger.

Cup the summer before. They were all awful lot. The poor old horses had just the stranger.

—that is, he wouldn't run away, but he'd dig into you like the very mis-

moothed out.

"There's my legacy from Henry," he
"There's my legacy from Henry," he
We put in the rest of the day mendwagon, pushing for all we were worth

go out there?"

When I got as far as that, I kicked We sat breathless and sweating on the land went outside for the blankets off and went outside for the country, and you could see as plain you got to take to foot racin?"

be?"

Then Upton gave a swift look all over a wagon exercise enough for you, that the country, and you could see as plain you got to take to foot racin?"

ter on the Injun racket than the rest wagon exercise enough for you, that the country, and you could see as plain you got to take to foot racin?"

and, my God! I wanted to be there, always when you look at him you find he's looking somewhere else. That were can go back—no, never!" said George slowly.

"And I never can go back—no, never!" said George slowly.

"And I man?" I asked, aston—" retorted Bill.

"Take it all back, said truthfully say that I wouldn't day on the proposition of what kind of a composition of what kind of a compositio ness that I understood after last night's

you're acting."

wouldn't have no right to talk, for it's less than three years ago that I pump-

ed a handful of lead into that onery

nothing, and a report which scarcethe other hesitated as though he
teared a trap, but seemed to think betteared a trap, but seemed to think better of it.

"Thank you, thank you," he said with
a bow. "I will, if you don't mind."

Thereupon he joined us and we got
a better look at him. I have never seen
a young man's face—that is a man unchase.

"But just the same," added Bill, as
we rose to take a fresh start, "I degpise having us that way.
Well, if it was a dead-sure thing to
him, it was only the lonesomest kind of
in, it was only the lonesomest kind of
a better look at him. I have never seen
a young man's face—that is a man unchase.

talking as much with his hands as his mouth.

My eye travelled from him to the other boys and marked the contrast.

Next him, on the same log, sat Big Bill with his great head anyward with his great head anyward with his remarks about the high duality of his team.

Warns with one eye shut. Bill had told (Fhwt, Fhwt! Old pussy," said George, "I wouldn't hurt you for a tended limestone, who had found gold in the limestone, to be sure, but really had no more idea as to the exact place than we did. At this he whirled around, stooped the hills and down the valleys, getting And our reason for following such a over, and regarded the cat from be- smaller and smaller until you lost track the pair we had just left, and I had signal flag. blind lead was as he stated. There was tween his legs; then he took a corner of of them miles and miles away, and my say concerning Upton. To tell you Some of the boys used to laugh at If ever there was constrenation and horror in an animal's face, it glared out of that wild cat's. She gave a yell, light from all around. Lord! how I for that, so that time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the this—they wouldn't hother to hang the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the this—they wouldn't hother to hang the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the this—they wouldn't hother to hang the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the first time I saw him, and per like this—they wouldn't hother to hang the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the haps I looked at everything he did not consider the by.

"Why, yes; join the gang, my friend," out of that wild cat's. She gave a yell, he said. "Bring along your wannegan. "Bring along your wannegan." when we got in what he tried to do to us was mean power. to the dismal cracks and holes of the enough in all conscience.

a fit country for but one animal-the

he's plumb tuckered out. I don't like would you say it was?" the way that fellow works at all," he went on, getting angrier as he spoke. a stop to it right now."

Bill glanced at me. with what Jim said before, Bill," said I; "I think that's a fishy-

looking cuss at the best of him. "Well. come along then, Kid, and we'll read him the riot act," said Bill. I jumped up and followed him as he strode off.

When we drew near, Upton looked at

a piece of country in estrator was gold by the bushels in that place—was gold by the bushels in that place—see where the creek (that's that line) makes the turn? I can't make out his writing there—can you read Dutch?"

"Let me see," cried the stranger, statching the paper, "Why, yes. If the space, "Why, yes. The gold is on the left hand bar, where is is so much iron stone?"

"The gold is on the left hand bar, where is is so much iron stone?"

"Oh, part of the wash where there's gold, all over this country. That doesn't mean anything. Henry tried to tell me about a "face"—is there anything about a "face"—is there was not in planning what he was go-ing to kick him when I first saw him. His think and the poor old horses went a thing as a whole garment in the crowd. It is ald that for Bill took great that, and the poor old horses went a place, on in-our rigs. Old four-sacks made up the most of them. You can in the place, was only a boy, and slightly-bull at that, and if Upton looked frightened, the little on one seemed terrified at our approach, but for many a day.

The whole business was piled up in they hold for many a day.

The whole business was piled up in they hold for many a day.

The whole business was piled up in they hold for many a day.

The whole business was piled up in they hold for many a day.

The whole busines was poled up in the was non-thing up abou

gold, all over this country. That doesn't mean anything. Henry tried to tell me about a "face"—is there anything about a "face"—is the couldn't sleep. I always get sort of horses. Bill's grievance was that they horses and anything about a "face"—is the couldn't sleep. I always get sort of horses. Bill's grievance was that they horses and anything about a "face"—is the couldn't sleep. I always get sort of horses. Bill's grieva

hats, when Jim looked intently over as a pikestaff that he wasn't hunting "Til have to stand you on your head, I took along a ridge that wasn't high

why couldn't he have come along ly. "Don't waste time in making up along with us like a Christian? I hate a lie. Let it go at Jones if you want finger at him. up. "Don't it seem queer that the folks along with us like a Christian? I hate a lie. Let it go at Jones it you want back in God's country are looking at to have anybody tagging after me like to; all I care for is to have a better that same moon? Kimi of makes you that. Makes me feel as if the sheriff name than 'say.' Now Mr. Jones it you want might at him.

Whereupon Jim reached out a long arm and laid a violent hand upon his me in trouble yet."

"Now," continued Bill, "we don't wish to harm either one of you, nor to poke our noses into what is not our business, but I don't believe you have any notion of what kind of a country you're Bill was sitting on his chest."

And that's what happened now. There is a light bear to hear you lie to him. Oh, I am sick of lies! Sick, Sick! I would stand any hardship for you gladly but this."

The voice stopped off with a click, and a hand-otherwise, back you go. There ed up and hit the breeze again. ain't any sense nor decency in the way By the middle of the afternoon we ness.

little bluffing.

smiled, then he turned to the boy and said kindly: "I'm only doing this for your good; it would be almost sure death for you to be lost in the Limestone—sure death for you," wheeling

warm you!" At this we left them. who'd buck against Bill when the old boy really meant what he was saying, and we had some pretty independent people in the mines, too, very different from that flabby man we'd just left.

Skinned his wrist, and I had shpped in the one, and there is always the chance for such, no matter how weak against a wheel so I saw comets aplenty.

Therefore we passed out when we hear George play "Home, Sweet Home"

the gun away from Jack Thurston, when Jack struck Bull Bend full of beer kegs in front of Jimmy Hooper's place. Bill had the gun in his hand, and Jack had to buy drinks for everybody. Oh, you bet! When Bill made up his mind that things were going to come along a certain line, they usually arrived on schedule. Nobody was out. That seemed reasonable, and we the sent. A bear has a pretty good nose, but if you give a cache a thorough burning and smoking, you're fairly safe. Sometimes the cunning old beggars will clean you out, at that miles of us. Rock chopped off a bluff, most likely."

That seemed reasonable, and we

CHAPTER III.

On the way back I spoke to Bill of the pair we had just left and I had little the pair we had l

gentle a man as ever lived, except when angered, which seldom happened. In spite of his lean frame Jim was almost as strong a man as Bill. He could count on getting one fall out of three when they wrestled.

George and I were the little fellows, but we were not weaklings for all that.

His friend would follow on our trail, a mile or so behind. There was a sneaky way in his manner of speaking that didn't please me a cent's worth, so I put in my little say, which say for getting one fall out of three was a sneaky way in his manner of speaking that didn't please me a cent's worth, so I put in my little say, which say for all that.

Nothing would suit George but we must take one along for a pet, and as I was a good deal of the same mind, ner of speaking that didn't please me a cent's worth, so I put in my little say, which say it is a free country, pardner, which seldom happened. In the spite of his lean frame Jim was almost I was a good deal of the same mind, ner of speaking that didn't please me a cent's worth, so I put in my little say, which say it is a free country, pardner, which seldom happened. In the way a good deal of the same mind, ner of speaking that didn't please me a cent's worth, so I put in my little say, eying him sharply as I spoke.

"This is a free country, pardner," have we descended upon the nest. Out ran the sun was overhead, we had the sun was overhead, we had the little old rag must take one along for a pet, and as I. was a good deal of the same mind, we descended upon the nest. Out ran the sun was overhead, we had the sun was overhead, we had the little old rag must take one along for a pet, and as I. was a good deal of the same mind, we descended upon the nest. Out ran take your chances the little old rag must take one along for a pet, and as I. was a good deal of the same mind, we descended upon the nest. Out ran take your chances the little old rag must take one along for a pet, and as I. was a good deal of the same mind, we descended upon the nest. Out ran the way is a spale withing. T

said I. "and you can spread yourself out wherever you fike, but it seems to me we might as well travel in a bunch."
But no, he preferred his own way, and after a few more words, he gave us good-day and limped along back the way he came; leaving me, for one, with a very poor idea of him.

I found the other boys no better pleased when we came to talk it over, but if there is one, thing that gets ground into you following the mines it is to give the other fellows a fair chance before the other fellows and fair chance before the other fellows and limber and the fellows and the fellows

"That cuss has a right to live by himself if he wants to," said he, "but ing like that, beggar."

"No, that's right," replied Bill the wants to make a work-horse of the kid that's with him—look at the poor little devil,

with him—look at the poor little devil,

what not." went on, getting angrier as he spoke, "and if you boys are with me, I'll put a ston to it right now."

"Good God!" cried Bill. "A thief, how. eh? Well, durnation! I never wanted how. And there was the bacon all dry and

> back track sailing." wouldn't do to act on that." wouldn't do to act on that."
>
> "Of course not; but the more I think of it the more I'm sure you've hit it—
> then, too, there's that poor kid. I reckon he'll be better off with us than he would kiting around with that ras-

"It must have been what he was a did a wagon up the side of a house," said he between puffs, "without having of a fire behind the was up to us now for fair. There's plenty of bluffs with all kind of shapes on 'em in the limestone. 'A pile of rocks' would have been almost as good for a guide."

"Still you think enough of this map"

"Well, I'll beat you to the boys, any-said he between puffs, "without having them—souff their feet—that's what breaks my heart."

"Well, I'll beat you to the boys, any-said he was up to us now for fair. There was just \$12 in dust in the could leg it."

"What's the matter with you little how," said he between puffs, "without having them—souff their feet—that's what breaks my heart."

"What's the matter with you little how," said we all when we reached the top. "Let's spell a min-self up slowly from where we'd dump-included the top. "Let's spell a min-self up slowly from where we'd dump-included the top. "Let's spell a min-self up slowly from where we'd dump-included the top."

"Well, I'll beat you to the boys, any-said he ween as fast as he could leg it."

"What's the matter with you little boys?" inquired Jim as he picked him-self up slowly from where we'd dump-included the top. "Let's spell a min-self up slowly from where we'd dump-included the top."

"I don't see anything of a fire behind the won," said he between puffs, "without having them—souff their feet—that's what breaks my heart."

"Now, my friend," says he, "I want to talk to you. What might your name belf up slowly from where we'd dump-included the top."

"Now, James!" cried Bill, shaking a I heard the man's voice, complaining

"Now," continued Bill, "we don't wish And that's what happened now. There big man looked so honest I couldn't

You're acting."

Were in the first break of the LimeSo while in my heart I cursed the code of honor that spoiled this chance the surface, but the steepest grass in to satisfy my curiosity, my noble spirit-"I don't see what right you have to places you ever saw; just like the ter ed legs trotted me off home again. "I don't see what right you have to talk to me like that," says he standing up and facing Bill with quite a swagger. "You take a good deal on yourself and I shall go on or not as I see fit!"

"Even if I say no?" asked Bill politemile on the edge of a cut before we leave to travel a half-mile on the edge of a cut before we mile on the edge of a cut before we could get down at all, and even then we'd have to tie a wheel, and hitch a way from home, my folks had spent quite a little money on my education. Bill looked at him a minute and smiled, then he turned to the boy and bill and Jim holding on at the top for dear life,

stone—sure death for you," wheeling on Uuton, "why, you bag of bones! I could throw you back if I wanted to. Now you keep close to the procession ine, although our trail must have over it, and opening and shutting them measured ten, at least. It was too like the swelling boy of an organ, that Now you keep close to the procession or I'll take you across my knee and warm you!" At this we left them.

measured ten, at least. It was too like the swelling box of an organ, that hard work trying to take things easy gave a power of expression to the poor warm you!" At this we left them.

I had no doubt of the way things like this; besides, the nigh horse had bunch of reeds that you wouldn't betrod on George's foot, Jim had caught lieve possible unless you heard it; bewould turn out, as I never saw the man his hand in a bight of the rope and sides that, he was an artist if ever there skinned his wrist, and I had slipped in lived one, and there is always the

As there was still light enough to spot in his throat, would be a pretty As there was still light enough to spot in his throat, would be a pretty work by, we made our cache in a lime-stone out-crop by the creek side—just gouged out a hole about three foot deep, put the plunder in and covered great calm night, we all distinctly great calm night. to him and said: "Give me that gun."
"You go to Arizona," says Jack. Then Bill says: "Give me that gun!" and they looked at each other for a minute,

Then, as it was likely-looking counthey looked at each other for a minute, while the crowd waited to see what was try for bear around there, we built a next, and the next was that Thurston fire up against the rock pile to spoil was standing on his ear in a pile of the scent. A bear has a pretty good

arrived on schedule. Nobody was out After which, I climbed up the tallest agreed that George was right. But it spruce, and, first clearing out the was a gun, after all, and the poor, de-

absolutely nothing else left for us to his coat in either hand and, Capping it in the air, advanced upon her.

his coat in either hand and, Capping it in the crisp grasses, a rich, soft sound in the crisp grasses, a rich, soft sound from the first time I saw him, and per-like this—they wouldn't bother accounts of the soft sound in the crisp grasses, a rich, soft sound from the first time I saw him, and per-like this—they wouldn't bother accounts of the sound in the crisp grasses, a rich, soft sound from the first time I saw him, and per-like this—they wouldn't bother accounts of the sound in the crisp grasses, a rich, soft sound in the crisp grasses, a rich, soft sound in the crisp grasses, a rich so the critical grasses are rich so the crisp grasses, a rich so the crisp grasses are rich so the critical grasses are rich so the crisp grasses, a rich so the critical grasses are rich so the crisp grasses are rich so the critical grasses are rich so

Usually you stay a day or two longer that we had to pack the stuff, without Long Jim, the Missourian; six foot four inches, as straight as the side of a uttered his thanks; but said he had a friend with him that—er—really, he haughty, fierce and far locking: altrouble, and if we wildn't mind, he and if we wildn't mind, he and if we wild green as straight as the side of a uttered his thanks; but said he had a friend with him that—er—really, he bird's nest—perhaps it was, for all I was just push, mouse the study of the suit we had a conscience.

Upton seemed confused. Again he uttered his thanks; but said he had a friend with him that—er—really, he bord the study of two longer than you ought to and when you hit was just push, push about fifteen hundred feet black with pines or ghastly white with rocks. Seamed and jagged and broken; from the way he acted."

Upton seemed confused. Again he uttered his thanks; but said he had a three with strength on the will be up to the last notch and your black with pines or ghastly white with rocks. Seamed and jagged and broken; from the way he acted."

Upton seemed confused. Again he uttered his thanks; but said he had a three with strength on the way of two longer than you ought to and conscience.

Upton seemed confused. Again he uttered his thanks; but said he had a three with strength on the will really you set the study of two longer than you ought to and the way he yelled, when the boy gave us his name, Bill?" I said; the back track for the cache, with your black with pines or ghastly white with rocks. Seamed and jagged and broken; from the way he acted."

Upton seemed confused.

Upton seemed confused.

Upton seemed confused.

Upton seemed confused.

It was the side of a uttered his three with the side of the sum of the back with start holes of the sum of the last note of the sum of the sum of the back track for the cache, with your black with pines or ghastly with the system that you ought as a white man considered.

Upton seemed confused.

Upton seemed confused.

Upton seemed confused.

Upton seemed confused.

Then we found the kittens—four th rocks. Seamed and lagged and broken; from the way he acted.

"That boy wants to do the square coyote; and even they seemed to shun the way he acted."

"That boy wants to do the square thing," replied Bill earnestly. "He was possible trouble, and the little old rag in every step.

him a lift.

When Bill saw that, he swore out all they don't shave any more; you sat down to the supper which Jim had all they don't shave any more; you sat down to the supper which Jim had prepared in the meantime. Some peoperate of the supper which Jim had prepared in the meantime. ould you say it was?" it is; I could go through the motions "Stealing, forgery, embezzlement or just exactly the same as he did, but the grub always tasted different, some-

"You've said my mind," replied Jim. I was sure of that I'd send him on the full of cold beans and flap jacks as ack track sailing." light as mother's biscuit, and dried "That's only a guess of mine, Bill. It apple sauce in another can, and a thirty-mile walk over the mountains to

Now, I just took one of those brown

cal. It might come around so we could do something for the boy." sandwich, and there was a dish for the Prince of Wales. when we drew near, Upton nowaday as us with the same smiling, sly and yet frightened way, which made me long to kick him when I first saw him. His after I said that for Bill took great that was from us, sitting around our fire on the limestone foot hills! President is plenning what he was go-

and excited, say:

" I didn't mean to. Brandon, but that

no right to pry into their private busi-

teurs, and had heard the best music

I remember the time when Bill took came to a creek, and went into camp —miles away from any home or fellow-

great calm night, we all heard a report, as of a gun, far, far in the distance. We stared at one another. The sound

came from the limestone country, dead ahead of us.

CHAPTER IV. By 10 o'clock the next morning we pounds of plunder on our backs, now

walls, and boulders from the size of a house to a cobble stone, and every shape of rock that ever sat out of doors. Some were pale pink, some were pure white and some tinted with colors. It sun shining on it, and the black nines at the bottom and the dark blue sky behind it making the delicate colors fairly hum-but when it came to travelling through it! Oh, man! That knocked the poetry high, west and crooked.

mals that do not breathe through their mouths. It breathes through its nostrils

(To be continued.)



CONTAIN

NO

POISON.

## Merel REAL

REPLIES TO ADVERTISEMEN Letters in reply to advertisent the classified columns of the await claimants as follows:

NUMBERS-60, 75, 91, 175, 206.
230, 253, 442, 450, 509, 705, 800, 811, 93 LETTERS-B., C., D., F., G. S. J. H., T. J. O.

WANTED-MALE HELP. Advertisements under this head a word each insertion. WANTED-Young man to take and drive grocery wagon, mus some experience. Apply T. R Victoria West.

WANTED-Man for position of a collector and clerk of Saanich pality. All applications must b July 12th. Address H. O. Ca quitz, B. C. ANY INTELLIGENT PERSON earn \$75 to \$100 monthly corresp for newspapers; sure, steady wo canvassing; experience unnecessing for particulars. Press Syn Lockport, N. Y.

WANTED-FEMALE HELP Advertisements under this head a word each insertion. WANTED—Lady teacher for school, salary \$40 per month. Auchinachie, Duncan, B. C.

WANTED-A woman to do genera work. Apply 47 King's road.

WANTED-Girl for general hor Apply cor. Oak Bay and Ter nues. ANY INTELLIGENT PERSON earn \$75 to \$100 monthly corresp for newspapers; sure, steady wo canvassing; experience unnecesed for particulars. Press Syn Lockport, N. Y.

WANTED-Ladles to do plain and sewing at home, whole or spare good pay; work sent any discharges paid; send stamp for ful ticulars. National Manufacturing pany, Montreal.

SITUATIONS WANTED-MAI Advertisements under this head a word each insertion. WANTED—Position in office by man, seven years' experience, I references, not afraid of work. Box 642.

BOOKKEEPER, experienced office competent to take charge, desire gagement; highest references and monials. Address C. J. F., care of Box 33, Victoria, B. C.

AN EXPERIENCED BOOKKER with first-class Victorian refer has portion of day at liberty. As P. O. Box 340, city. CONTRACTORS—We can furnish with laborers, or any kind of me short notice; Poles, Slave, Italians, Lithunians, etc. Boston ping Co., 18 Norfolk street, New

MISCELLANEOUS.

Advertisements under this head a word each insertion. GOOD HOME for schoolgirl, ligh for board. Apply 217 Pandora WANTED—A man who can h scythe to cut 3 or 4 acres of h ply Robert Winter, McClure str INVESTMENTS in our choice Southern Alberta farm land town lots in the best busines dence section of Taber, Almake you a guaranteed preceded to be southern and glitedged. This is your owners we ment we offer is absolutely and glitedged. This is your owners we ment we offer is absolutely and glitedged. This is your owners we have been supported to the second section.

FREE—Camping ground, 237 a main road, good spring water wood, shade trees. etc. Soo passes to Victoria daily, E. & passes three tiems daily within good fishing. F. J. Bittancou perty, Goldstream.

FYOU WANT TO SELL OR B thing give us a call C R Ste thing, give us a call. C. B. Ster Store street. Phone B928. CARE OF 2 OR 3 CHILDREN for sponsible parties; no objection fants. For terms and particular Cormorant street.

THE LATEST sheet metal electric
J. Market, maker, Victoria,
Phone B1247. Phone B1247.

SUSSEX (PRIVATE) HOTEL, 65 Stroad, Kensington, London, W., Addison road station, 3 minutes' Shepherd's Bush tube station, 5 utes. Terms. Box 340. Victoria, B FURNITURE—We have secured agency for the famous Gunn sec book cases. Come and examine th cial features, fully explained. Bax Johnson, Government street, opp-

WANTED-MISCELLANEOUS Advertisements under this head a a word each insertion. GASOLINE ENGINE (SECOND-H WANTED-For boat, about 2 must be in thorough working orde cheap for cash. Address Box 282 Office.

START YOUR LIBRARY NOW

Board of School Trustees, Cur B. C. WANTED—For month of July, a fur ed house, with five bedrooms. A with terms. Box 1627, Times Office.

WANTED-Old cotton rags; mu

WANTED—To rent for one year or by a gentleman from the East, a I NISHED HOUSE of at least 12 r with 4 or 5 acres of ground prefe Apply to Gavin H. Burns, Roof Five Sisters' Block. WANTED—To purchase, about 3 of land, suitable for poultry, a few from city; must be reasonable. E. T., 146 Johnson street. WANTED—Old coats and vests, boots and shoes, trunks, valises, guns, revolvers, overcoats, etc. He cash prices paid. Will call at ar dress. Jacob Aaronson's new an ond-hand store, 64 Johnson stree doors below Government street. WANTED—Scrap brass, copper, lead, cast fron, sacks, and all ki bottles and rubber; highest cash paid. Victoria Junk Agency, 30 a Store street. Phone 1336.

BOARD AND ROOMS. sements under this head a word each insertion. ANTED Furnished room, with in private family, where no boarders are kept preferred; mu best residential part of city best residential part of city terms to Box 97. Times Office. ANTED Room and board, in family; references if desired.