



By Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews

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In his perspective a beast's speaking was no larger marvel than the sunsets of every day—sunsets and sunsets and stars and tides, and it saw the unwearied vision of youth say things in not unjust proportion that the girl was shivering. "You answered the unearthly tone with sweet, excited eagerness. "Merry Christmas, Nigger," she said, and added tremulously, "I'm so glad you really can talk—it will seem nice after being dumb."

"Yes, it's nice," Nigger responded civilly, but he seemed preoccupied. He went on with promptness. "You must go back to the house, children, at once. You'll catch cold. It was queer to have their own horse giving them orders, yet the tone was of authority. "But, Nigger," Alice pleaded, "we want to talk to you—what do you know about these questions?"

"It seemed almost as if Nigger had stopped to listen to something. He did not notice the pad-pad of hoofs still a long way off. "What questions?" the hoarse voice demanded. "The quick, cartoonish Alice began, but choked with excitement, and Benny plunged to her relief, collected and deliberate. "We'd like some hidden treasure," he explained. "Treasure is money. To send father south where it's warm, 'cause he's sick. We want you to tell where to get some treasure for father."

Nigger appeared to be struck back to dumbness by this simple request. "We'd like some hidden treasure," he explained. "Treasure is money. To send father south where it's warm, 'cause he's sick. We want you to tell where to get some treasure for father."

"Who is that?" he asked cheerily. "The man answered: 'It's a friend—Carl Maxwell.' "Carl Maxwell?" the clergyman's voice had a tone of disbelief. "What do you mean—how can it be Carl Maxwell?"

"The man swung forward. "Look at me," he said, and pulled away his hat. He looked startled and a little afraid, but he held, and caught the other's hand. "My boy, I'm glad to see you," he said. "Help me unharness. We must

"I Came Here to Rob You," He Said. "I'm glad to see you," he said. "Help me unharness. We must

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picked you up from somewhere and put you in my hands and said, 'This is Sidney Maxwell said. He told me that Christmas never came but the thought of you was with him; that when his own boys played with their toys around their tree he remembered always how you and he had played together; that he had tried in vain to get you; that it was a constant grief that he and his father had judged you harshly; that he would give his fortune to know where you are and make things right.' "The clergyman went on as the man listened, defiance melted out of him; he did not answer or look up. The clergyman went on. "You see what child's play it seemed to me when you spoke of stealing three thousand dollars, with the Maxwell millions waiting. Not that it would have been possible in any case," he added quickly. "You thought you could do it, but you never could never."

"Perhaps I couldn't," the man said bitterly. "I meant to—I don't know what stopped me." "The Lord," Harding answered tersely. "It isn't the first time he has made children his messengers." Maxwell lifted his eyes dreamily. Like a man who had been unconscious and who was coming slowly back to a world too good to be true. "I used to believe those things," he said. "I'd like to now. I've been a long way down. But I've never liked it. I've been unhappy. It doesn't seem possible that I'm to have a chance. There was coming here to drown myself in Meadow Brook—I thought I was at the end of the rope. That was my plan this afternoon. And then I heard you and Sidney—and I was glad to get a chance to live—I think it's in me yet to work hard and make a place for myself. I think so. I may be engaged to you soon—only you know I always went headlong whichever way I started, and it was the same with the bad life I've been living. I can't believe I've been faced about—in a minute."

"The clergyman had pushed the man into a deep chair; the freight washed a friendly ragueness over the shabby clothes and over his face, molding now into new lines under a crisis. His eyes lifted to his friend's with a dazed gaze which had lost bitterness. Dr. Harding looked at him. "That's the way to go at the business," Harding said, his face glowing with enthusiasm. "You'd do it, that way."

"And with that the clock in the hall struck four, and from upstairs there came a faint, but distinct, and very earnest of barbarians. Alice and Benny mysteriously arrived in a dream of their father's arrival, came down upon him like a wolf on the fold, and bit, but tore him limb from limb with stress of affection, and then, all at once, aware of the stranger, they were like lured into silence. But Dr. Harding took his girl's hand and put it into Carl Maxwell's.

"I've brought home an old friend, Alice," he said. "Wait him a merry Christmas, my dear." And Alice smiled and said the words, while Benny, straining his father, re-echoed the greeting with full, slow tones. "Merry Christmas, old friend—an' a happy New Year," said the old man. Harding, hung with children, looked a hand to pat the man's shoulder. His eyes were bright with the vision of the pure in heart, who see Benny's lit lit. "That's what we all wish you, and what's coming, Carl—a happy New Year!"

Harding, standing over him, laid a calm hand on his shoulder. "My lad," he spoke gently. "It appears to me that going into wrong-doing is like going into a tunnel that leads downhill to darkness. At every step the walking gets harder, and the air gets worse, and it's dirtier and more interesting. And all the time all you have to do is to face about, and you see the sunlight."

"Of course it's not simple getting back—I know that. Sure as fate you will walk your shins, and stagger in to holes, and fall down, and maybe get discouraged, but Heavens, man! What's that, when you see daylight. Seeking one that should be his first hope, wide as love and that bare the sign of the cross on every bush, they chose the balsam fir, which best of all the trees in the forest met the requirements—Century.

"The arrival in New Orleans of Col. Duffin, from his well known Louisiana post, has been the subject of reports that a revolution against the administration in Honduras will follow the downfall of Zelaya. It is said that Zelaya is now preparing to take up the duties of consul in New Orleans, and that he will be as soon as Zelaya is expected. When a general outbreak is expected, the state department has cables dictated Davila's selection as president of Honduras.

"Final touches to a bill to be presented before congress at an early date, which includes a provision to make the naval militia of the various states come under the same benefits and training as the Deck bill makes possible for the national guard of the country, is the principal business to be taken up by the delegates to the National Naval Militia association at a meeting in Washington.

"Fielding H. Yost has signed a contract to coach the U. S. football team for two years. Yost was premier in 1906, has been semi-officially entrusted with the formation of a new Roman Catholic, the Gioiet cabinet, not having resigned. "Thousands of letters are being received by the Lord sent from France bearing postage of only two cents. Under the regulations, the letters are to be sent by the post, but the National Naval Militia association at a meeting in Washington.

"The Imperial Window Glass Co., of New York, has a member of 60,000 blown glass plant in the state of Ohio at \$100,000,000 will be incorporated under Pennsylvania laws shortly.

"Jacob Kush, 65, paraded the route of the Pennsylvania State Police, shooting at random, it is alleged. He was arrested.

AMERICAN SETTLERS WELCOME AND DOING WELL.

The Portland Oregonian, of Portland, Oregon, published a cartoon on the immigration of U. S. people to Canada, in its issue of October 6, 1906. The picture was accompanied by the following articles: "Losing American Citizens. The exodus of American farmers to Canada continues to be a phenomenon of the first importance. More and more crossing the border 'this fall' than ever before, and they are flocking in all parts of the country. Formerly it was the Middle West alone, but now the heart of its citizenship. Now all sections of the Union suffer alike. The regret which we cannot help feeling over the migration of many thousands of excellent citizens has an economic side which causes some concern. The 70,000 farmers who will go to Canada to live this fall will take with them some \$70,000,000 of cash and effects. This is by no means a negligible sum, and it means a very appreciable drain on our resources. But, of course, the most serious thing is the men themselves and their families, who are leaving the land of the free and the home of the brave to dwell under the rule of a monarchy."

"Why do they go? Naturally the cheap and fertile land of Western Canada attracts them. Each emigrant with a reasonable expectation of bettering his fortune. And in a few years he may grow rich through the abundant crops he can raise and the high value of the soil. But perhaps that is not the sole reason for the astonishing migration. There is a common notion abroad that in Canada the real estate is so much safer than here that it is more frequent, and are more speedily and surely punished. Mobs are so-called 'unwritten law' are a thing of the past. The law is a vasty more ascertainable entity there, Canada does not persecute judges to acts of the legislature. When a man is wronged he has enacted it is known to be the law of the land until it is repealed. Canada is naturally open to Canadian civilization a security and stability which we have not yet attained.

"We must remember, in the same connection, that the Canadian protection tariff is far less exorbitant than ours, and much less boldly applied for the benefit of special favorites. There is an impression, very widely diffused, that the Canadians are not so wickedly robbed by the trusts as we are in this country. Reasonable men sufficiently account for the exodus of a body of citizens whom we can ill afford to lose, but they do not much assuage our regret that the United States be retained in the United States."

"Speaking of this, a Canadian Government representative says that the Canadian Government is one of the most welcome. The splendid areas of virgin soil, a large quantity of which is given away as free homesteads, close to the great railway lines, and under construction. The railway lines that are assisting in this development are the Canadian Pacific, the Canadian Northern, and the Great Northern. The latter is built entirely on Canadian soil, and has opened up a wonderful stretch of land. Along this stretch are many fine cities and some of America's settlers have made their homes. They have built the towns, and immediately began as far as possible the building up of the great Canadian West.

"Agents of the Government are located in various cities throughout the United States who will be pleased to give any information that may be desired to further the interest of the settler.

"The minister who had exchanged with Rev. Mr. Talcom was scandalized to see Deacon Snowball in the vestry, after service, deliberately taking a 50-cent note from the contribution-box and substituting a dime. "Brier Snowball," he exclaimed, in horror and amazement, "that's plain diabolical doings!"

"Up to date recent wool, silk and cotton each required a separate dye. An enterprising chemist has now perfected a new dye which colors all goods with one dye, producing same results. Ask your dealer, if it is not in your store, for a sample of this dye to Dy-o-la, Burlington, Vt., stating color desired and we will send you a color card and book of directions.

"Unburdening. "You must at least give that candidate credit for speaking his mind." "Yes," replied Miss Cayenne. "But it's unfortunate that people are beginning to speak their minds are so often those whose mentalities are more or less unburdened."

"A superlative tonic, appetizer and stimulant for the exhausted overworked system is one-half pint good whiskey to which should be added one ounce pound fluid balsam and one ounce compound syrup sarsaparilla. As an excellent remedy for indigestion, flatulency, and other ailments, it is a tonic that adds to the system and at bedtime. Any druggist can mix it quickly.

"Sufficient Evidence. "Father was evidently drinking again last night." "What makes you think that?" "He snored the janitor when he came in."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"This Will Interest Mothers. Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children. Sold by all druggists. Children's Home, New York City. Stomach Troubles and Digestion. Sample FREE. Address: Allen & Co., 107 N. 7th St., N. Y. "Enthusiasm is something that causes a man to shout and to crowd in shouting, even if he doesn't know what it is about. HAVE YOU A COFFIN OR COLONY? It is usually costly to follow cheap advice.

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TAFT FILLS 1,300 POSTS.

Send List of Nominations to the Senate. President Taft sent to the senate a list of 1,300 nominations to federal offices. The list includes the following: "The important new appointments of Franklin Lane, a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, Sanford B. Dole, former president of the Hawaiian Islands, has been appointed to the Taft's cabinet as Secretary of the Territory of Hawaii.

Congressional Notes. Rep. Gardner, of Pennsylvania, has introduced a bill for a congressional inquiry into customs frauds, especially by the sugar trust. Rep. Hamilton of Michigan has a bill to amend the tariff on Mexico and Arizona. Senator Cummins opposes President Taft's plan for an interstate commerce court. Rep. Mann of Illinois has measures for a free trade tariff, and a bill for the elimination of the Panama canal commission in favor of a district court for the jurisdiction of the "white slave" traffic.

Louis J. Rosenberg, of Detroit, has made a bill to amend the tariff on Brazil, is in Washington conferring with Senators Burrows and Smith in regard to a new post, as he finds the tariff on Brazil, not conducting to health. Among the diplomatic nominations to be dealt with by the senate are those of Robert Bacon, of New York, to be ambassador to France; Richard C. K. Meade, of New York, to be ambassador to Austria-Hungary; Henry Lane Wilson, of Washington state, to be ambassador to Chile; William J. Buchanan, of Illinois, to be minister to China; and George Bryan, now minister to Portugal, to be minister to Belgium.

Millions in Corporations. It is estimated that there will have been collected from the special corporate tax for the year ending July 1, 1910, \$15,000,000, and that an additional \$15,000,000, collectible for the calendar year ending January 1, 1910, to December 31, 1910, will be collected for the year ending July 1, 1910, making the total amount of the special tax for the fiscal year 1910, \$30,000,000.

The board of education of Grand Rapids adopted the proposed amendment to the rules putting a ban on the holding of similar social organizations in the school, and then in deference to a strenuous petition asking for a delay, postponed the action until a special meeting to be held in two weeks.

Prairie Still in the Mud. The auxiliary cruiser Dixie has gone to the assistance of her sister ship, the Prairie. The Dixie has been stranded on a shoal off Delaware City since Thursday night. After taking on board the Prairie's cargo and 200 marines the vessel will go to Managua. The Dixie is in command of Rear Admiral Kimball, who goes to take charge of the fleet in Central America. The Dixie will be in Managua. The Prairie will board the Dixie. The Prairie is a 1,200-ton steamer, and is the only one of her kind in the Gulf of Mexico. She is believed that every bit of her cargo will be saved. It is expected before there will be a chance to free her.

Starts Epoch of Economy. Declaring the time ripe for re-orientation of federal expenditure, the President has announced that he will cut down the federal budget for 1911. The Taft administration has a record of economy for economy in national expenditure. The total estimates for 1911 are \$54,112,121, including the new building program. Excluding the increase in the Panama canal estimates, the total estimates for 1911 show a decrease of \$7,244,493.89 under the appropriations for 1910.

The ordinary estimated receipts for the current year are \$48,000,000 and the ordinary disbursements at \$55,250,000, leaving a deficit in ordinary receipts of \$7,250,000.

For Benefit of Naval Militia. Final touches to a bill to be presented before congress at an early date, which includes a provision to make the naval militia of the various states come under the same benefits and training as the Deck bill makes possible for the national guard of the country, is the principal business to be taken up by the delegates to the National Naval Militia association at a meeting in Washington.

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The Angel's Song

O little babe, O gentle babe,
That in a manger lies,
Which floats a-down the seas;
We through the world, who only hear
The world's harsh thundering,
Listen that thou mayest hear,
My hear the angels sing.

O little babe, O gentle babe,
Who lookest toward the star,
And seeest when they bear their gifts,
Which are the gifts of heaven,
From wandering wild, back to thy side,
Weary and worn we flee;
Behold the blessed hands that need,
All we have for thee.

O little babe, O gentle babe,
Our hearts were hard and cold;
The star we loved, the star of fame,
The song, the song of gold,
The Christmas morn,
We listen and we long
To see that star shine forth
And hear the angels' song.

—Richard P. Souter.

Maxwell lifted his chin and threw at the clergyman a glance like a blow. Harding went on as if he had not heard. "It's very thick to me to-day, what do you suppose he was talking about?" "You mean the man in the street?" "No, answered in your name, I felt as if Heaven had reached down and