#### THE COLLECTOR'S MISCELLANY No.

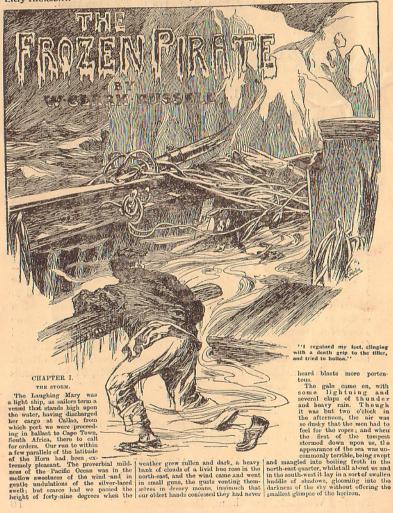
W. CLARK RUSSELL'S GREAT SERIAL STORY BEGINS THIS WEEK.

### 32 617. PAGES.

Every THURSDAY.

For February 20, 1904.

Price ONE PENNY,



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Wanted Boy's Cinemas and Screen Stories magazines. Alex Gordon, 60 Canfield Gardens, London, N.W. 6.

A few copies of Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 (5th. series) of this journal are still in print, price 1/3d. each post free. Parks, Printer, Saltburn-by-Sea, Yorks.

For Sale Blueskin, Black Bess, Black Highwayman, Charles Peace the Burglar, Rupert Dreadnought, (orig edn), Handsome Harry & Cheerful Ching-Ching, Ned Nimble series, Tom Wildrake's Schooldays, Edith the Captive, Captain MacHeath, Dick Turpin, Jack Harkaway's Schooldays - After Schooldays - At Oxford - Amongst Brigands etc., Outlaws of Epping Forest, Brigands of the Sea, Rags and Riches and many other Brett and Hogarth House romances. Oliver Twiss, Mazeppa, Black Monk, Ela the Outcast and other Lloyd bloods. Don Zalva, Desdichado, Nuggets, Varieties, Young Folks vols 7-11, 14-20, 26, 30-32, 39-41 & 43. Up-to-Date Boys complete set, Boys of the Empire vols 1 & 2, (coloured issue complete), Boys World vol 2. Many vols of Boys of England, Boys Comic Journal, Young Men of Great Britain and Boys Sunday Reader, state wants. Aldine Powerful Dramatic Tales, Reynold's Mysteries of London and Court of London 12 vols, orig. cloth, mint set. G. W. M. Revnolds' and Pierce Egan's romances. Claude Duval, Many others. Reasonable exchanges considered. John Mederaft, 64 Woodlands Road, Ilford, Essex.

Wanted back numbers of previous series of Collector's Miscellany containing articles on penny dreadfuls and bloods. Turner, 28 Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, Kent.

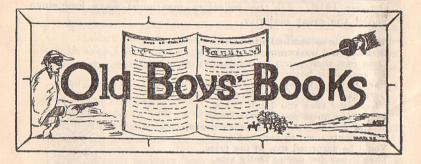
For Sale Nelson Lee, Nos 51—174, 1927—29, 51 Chums 1913—14, 25 Gems 1927, 50 Detective Weekly 1933—35, all good condition, S.A.E. list. Wanted Magnets 1910—15. W. H. Neate, Wenlock, Burnham, Bucks.

## The Collector's Miscellany

A journal for collectors of Old and Modern Boys' Books, Bloods, Penny Number Romances, Etc.

No. 10 (5TH. SERIES)

SEPTEMBER, 1947



## **BUFFALO BILL**

BY F. N. WEARING

(continued from page 140)

OWBOYS in all the regalia of the Rodeo and real Sioux Indians, but above all, riding in the arena—unforgetable—was Buffalo Bill himself. By virtue of its originality, its real quality, and its appeal to the youth of the world, the Wild West Show made Barnum look to his laurels. It was with this final development that Cody signed his fabulous adventure tales himself. It gave them the final touch of truth. Many of these were were written by Colonel Prentiss Ingraham, son of Prof J. H. Ingraham, author of "Captain Kyd," "Lafitte," and in contrast, "Prince of the House of David"!

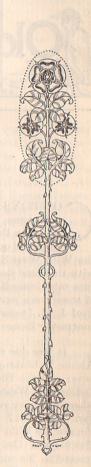
It was due to the wide circulation of libraries issued by the Aldine Publishing Co. and Henderson, that the British boy (who never saw the Show) reverenced Buffalo Bill as the intrepid Indian and Western fighter. The decline of the show set in when Salisbury retired in 1895. From 1902 to Cody's death on Jan. 10th, 1917 there was a succession of spells of hard luck. Finally the Wild West Show was closed by the Sheriff and sold up. The town of Cody, Wyoming has a bronze equestrian statue erected to his memory.

### THE OLD BOYS' BOOK BRIGADE

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Reprinted by special request from "Vanity Fair," No. 11, Vol. 1, October, 1918. All the collectors mentioned have long since joined the great majority.

ABOUT three hundred still exist. Of weird old bookworms in our midst, Long past their youth they still contrive, To keep their boyhood days alive, For Darwin, Huxley, they don't care, Or Dickens' first editions rare, I fear their taste you'd call it low, If of their quest you did but know, Would you believe it, boyhood's books, Still tempts them to secluded nooks, You'll be surprised too, at the price. They'll pay for copies really nice, Of Turpin, Sheppard, and Jack Rann, With joy these ancient varns they'll scan, Of course to you it may seem odd, That they should still love Sweeney Todd. But still the fact remains they do, Most serious in their hobby too, What pains they'll take when on the track, Of such a book as "Moonlight Jack," John Jefferies in the City Road, Of London Town has quite a load, While Ransome still can make a show, Somewhere in Paternoster Row, While if a fortune you could pay, You might get some from one Frank Jay, These names are meaningless to you, But potent names among the crew, Who hoard their old "Boy's Standard" still, And search for more with right good will, So treat that old boys' book with care, For all you know it may be rare, Despise not "Spring-Heeled Jack" my friend, Nor let the dust bin be its end, Some epicure may give you gold, If this edition should be old, So be advised, your Grand-dad's lumbers, May still contain some penny numbers, If clean, complete, and bound up nice, Just drop a card and ask the price, That either of these cranks will give, Below their names and where they live.



Frank Jay, Fireroft Road, Tooting, London, S.W. 17. Coun. Fred Harrison, (Barry Ono), Vaughan Road, London, S.E.

# Early Struggles of a Boy's Author BY R. A. H. GOODYEAR

T 15 I drew my first 10/- as a paid author with an article called "Mimic Cricket" in Henderson's Old and Young. About a year later the same paper gave me 30/- for a short story, entitled, "Miss Miffin's Triumph." For seniment's sake I shall be happy to hear from anyone who possesses a loose copy containing either of those early contributions of mine.

Wanly woeful young women with pernicious anaemia and cadaverous, long-jawed men with jaundiced faces and nutcracker ch ns, were pictured for us as chain-clanking ghosts in the haunted old castle's cobwebbed corridors in the Boy's Comic Christmas Number—a grim notion of comedy!

In summer holidays from school I tried hard to write similar ghost stories but they all came back "declined with thanks" and my burning ambition to be a Yuletide author was not realised until I was 18, when R. Hamilton Edwards printed a yarn of mine in the Boy's Friend Christmas number. All I remember of that Christmas story was the part I didn't do—the illustration which showed a youth skating for dear life across a wild waste of ice with an escaped gorilla in hot pursuit.

My parents planned that I should "read for the law," but as I was seldom anything but bilious in that solicitor's office I got out of it and "wrote for the papers" instead, starting as "Our Special Sports Correspondent." I was dismayed to find that the boy's papers wouldn't have my serial stuff—what wonder when at 18 I was in competition with such established favourities as E. Harcourt Burrage in one direction and Talbot Baines Reed in another?

So I put every penny I had into a new Yost typewriter and began submitting articles to Answers, Tit-Bits, Pearson's Weekly and Cassell's Saturday Journal. Then at last did a few sunny shafts of success pierce the near-by despair of my anxious thoughts, for I straightway got an article about "Boy Editors of Printed Magazines" into Tit-Bits Premium Page, which paid double rates —£2.2.0 a column—for all contributions printed on that page.

Fired by my modest achievement—I was only an office boy at the time—I soon became a regular contributor to Cassell's Saturday Journal and for years never missed a week without appearing in it. Its editor was Ernest Foster, who also edited Chums,

and he readily printed articles for me in that boy's paper but would never accept my short stories.

By this time I was married and found it impossible to keep a wife on my literary earnings. In blank consternation I realised that I was a failure as a professional author. What was I to do? Go cringing back to my old bosses and humbly ask to be taken on again? Yes, that seemed my only alternative—but first I wrote in desperation to Alfred W. Barrett ("R. Andom" of "We Three and Troddles" fame) and told him how badly I was fixed.

For ten years I had been a member of the "Nuggets League" and had written weekly letters and articles for it and its companion paper, The Garland, both of which "R. Andom" edited. Ali this work had been "buckshee," my sole reward being a heap of book prizes. Andom also edited Scraps and The Nugget Library for Red Lion House, and most generously and helpfully he commissioned me to contribute 30,000-word yarns to the Nugget Library saying he could himself write one such yarn in a week.

Well, I couldn't and didn't, but I wrote fast and my wife typed faster and I managed one in ten days calling it "The Mystery at Mount Oliver." This I followed up with "Bob Gwynn or, The Worst School in the County," "The Boys of Feathernest" and "The Tyrants of the School," with other tales of the same type, into which I crowded as much swift action and snappy dialogue as I possibly could.

In between, to pay the butcher, the baker, the tailor, the dressmaker and the landlord, I sandwiched long novelettes for Edwin J. Brett's publications, *Pocket Novels* and *Pansy's Paper* trying to make them as melodramatic as "The Silver King" or "A Girl's Cross-Roads" and receiving £3.3.0 each for them!

Talk about penny-a-lining! I didn't get even a farthing a line at that rate. Easy to understand why Brett left a large fortune if he paid his Boys of England authors no more than that.

An old printer I knew, who had worked for Brett, told me that half-a-crown a page was deemed good enough for many of the old "blood" writers. "And really some of them deserved no more," he said, "for they used to pinch their yarns wholesale from the novels of Harrison Ainsworth, Captain Marryat, Charles Kingsley, Lord Lytton and other famous authors of popular novels."

Just so, but 2/6 a page! It would cost much more than that nowadays to have a page of MS typed, reckoning a 1000 words to a column. In those olden days I could type a story the length of a Marvel or Pluck novelette in two days and often did, but my attempt to become one of the shining constellation of Union Jack authors was one of my worst early failures, despite kindly encouragement from Hamilton Edwards, who said if I would write him a dozen or more yarns as good as my "Diamond Thief" he would publish them all. I just hadn't the gift for that kind of story, however, and wisely sought ready money elsewhere.

To sum up, becoming a Nugget Library writer and a Lot o' Fun serialist was a godsend at a most critical time of my life. I have seldom had any trouble in selling a boy's story, long or short, since. So thanks, "R. Andom," wherever your brave and kindly spirit is resting.

FINIS

# "NUGGETS" and "THE GARLAND" BY JOHN MEDCRAFT

HROUGHOUT its long run of 14 years at a period when values were keen and with a wide range of other periodicals in competition, Henderson's Nuggets was easily one of the biggest and best pennyworths obtainable. It first appeared as Comic Pictorial Nuggets No. 1 dated May 7th 1892 and consisted of 16 pages, quarto, with 12 pages of comic pictures, a serial and short paragraphs, price one halfpenny. With No. 30 the price was increased to a penny and the format changed to 16 pages of comic pictures and 16 pages of serial matter in separate sections and thereafter, for the greater part of its existence, this policy prevailed with marked success.

The popularity of Nuggets inspired Hendersons to launch a companion paper of identical format and policy in Varieties. No. 1 dated May 12th 1894, later renamed The Garland to avoid clashing with Music Hall interests which enjoyed a run of over 6 years. In these two papers the majority of the stories which had appeared in Young Folks during the preceding 20 years were reprinted with the original illustrations; the "Giantland" series, "Jack the Valiant" and others by Roland Quiz; the "Silverspear" series by Walter Villiers; "Don Zalva the Brave," "Desdichado" and all the grand stories by Alfred R. Phillips, by Manville Fenn, Charles E. Pearce, C. A. Read, R. L. Stevenson, William Sharp

(Fiona MacLeod) and other talented writers the equal of whom few boys' periodicals of any age can boast. All the fine illustrations of John Proctor (Puck) and W. Boucher, which for sheer artistry were unsurpassed in their class, were reproduced to charm the youth of a new generation.

The fine classical stories of that eminent scholar, C. A. Read, were also reprinted, "Achilles" and "Odysseus" with the quaint original illustrations inspired by Grecian bas relief and frieze but fresh sets of drawings were made for "Hercules" by H. Evans and for "Jason" by Fritz Braun.

From the first number of Nuggets, Hooligan appeared on the front page of the pictorial section and the humorous adventures of this inventive Irishman and his family remained a popular feature for many years. Not to be outdone, The Garland featured the pictorial adventures of Schneider, a comical German and his family, which ran along similar lines to those of Hooligan and frequently in humorous rivalry. These two characters were created by J. Shaw Baker, whose son, Charles Shaw Baker also a black and white artist, was a regular member of the Warwickshire County Cricket eleven for several years. In The Garland also appeared two series of double page illustrations by Dana Gibson, creator of the Gibson Girl.

One of the first original serials to appear in Nuggets was "The Prince of Giantland" by Roland Quiz and illustrated by W. Boucher, which commenced in No. 349, Xmas 1898. While not approaching the standard of the glorious "Tim Pippin" series which he wrote at the flood tide of energetic youth 25 years earlier, this belated sequel was a good story but lacked the masterly art of John Proctor for Boucher, good as he was in all else, could not equal the former in illustrations of this type. American Buffalo Bill stories which had previously appeared serially in the Weekly Budget were now reprinted in Nuggets, the first being "Dashing Charlie and his Double" followed by "The Bravo in Broadcloth" both by Col. Prentiss Ingraham, and "The Dead Shot Nine" all of which were illustrated by J. G. Glover.

The Garland ended at No. 209, July 26th, 1900, the unfinished serials being continued in Nuggets which carried on with undiminished popularity. Fresh stories by new authors were now appearing and one of the first was William Murray Graydon who wrote "In Forbidden Nepaul," "The Land of the Dragon," "Under the White Terror" and "Among Freebooters and Indians" to mention but a few. Derwent Miall commenced by writing

adventure stories of which one of the first was "The Pride of the Troop" followed by "In the Days of Drake," and John G. Rowe, a fine writer of adventure stories, but less successful with school stories, started off with "Gentleman George" a tale of the Australian Mounted Police. In 1904, that famous writer of sea stories, W. Clark Russell, contributed "The Frozen Pirate" and "The Rival Pirates," while the reappearance of "The Black Arrow" by R. L. Stevenson made this a memorable year.

With No. 638, July 16th, 1904, a slight but significant change occured in the format of Nuggets, the segregation of the paper into Story and Pictorial sections was abandoned, the former being increased to 22 pages and the comic section reduced to an average of 10 pages distributed throughout the paper. In this number the first of Derwent Miall's grand school stories commenced entitled "The Fifth Form Rebels" followed by "The Amordale College Mystery" which commenced in No. 650. At his best, I know of no better writer of school stories than Derwent Miall whose penchant for secret passages and caves intensified the interest. But not on this account alone do I rate them first class for in sustained interest plus thrills, they are unexcelled, moreover they did finish as all good stories should.

No. 666 was the last of the familiar 32 page Nuggets and with the next number 667, dated Feb. 4th, 1905 a new series commenced in a different format—24 pages of larger size, with only 6 pages of comic pictures. The first serials in the new series were "Schoolboys Three" a grand yarn, and "Lost in the Pacific" both by Derwent Miall, "The Hunted Man" by William Westall (reprinted) and "The Spy of the Secret Three." This fine start promised well for success and the interest was maintained by the appearance at intervals of other fine serials including "The Chief of the Third Section" by W. Murray Graydon, "Cresswell & Co." and "The Cruise of the Ice Queen" both by Derwent Miall plus short stories and many interesting paragraphs dear to boyish hearts.

But when all seemed set for a long run yet another change occurred and with No. 692 July 29th 1905, the number of pages was reduced to 16 of a still larger size, no longer the familiar pale green but a very decided pink. Nuggets was now more like a conventional comic paper of the period than it had ever been and 6 pages including the front page, were devoted to comic pictures, serials and complete stories occupying the rest. The serials in the new series were well up to the old standards and

commenced with "Rafael the Rover" a fine tale of the Spanish Main followed by "The Red Brotherhood" illustrated by Fritz Braun. "The Secret of "Galloping Jack's Cave" by Derwent Miall was a schoolboy story with an unusual and exciting theme, and this was followed by "Pressed for Service" by the same author. Other noteworthy serials in this series included "The Brigands of the Black Car," "The Mystery of Greyfriars Castle" and a fine series of Rob Roy yarns. The sands of time were running out when "Our Sikle Club" commenced in No. 715. This amusing yarn of the varying misfortunes of a boys' cycle club and was written by that humorous chronicler of cycling buffoonery, R. Andom, whose real name, I believe, was Barratt. This was the last serial to appear in Nuggets which finally ended at No. 724, March 10th, 1906, its place being filled by Lot-o-Fun in which all serials left unfinished in Nuggets were continued.

Of Lot-o-Fun, Nugget Library and the tale end Henderson publications there will be more to tell later.

FINIS

## THE COLLECTOR'S MISCELLANY

A journal for collectors and all who are interested in Old Boys' Books, Penny Number Romances, Etc. etc. Published every two months.

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Wanted Aldine Turpins, Duvals, etc. Landy, 4 Nuneaton Road, Dagenham, Essex.

## CHARLES HAMILTON,

### MASTER OF HIS CRAFT BY ROGER M. JENKINS

HERE can be little better occupation on a winter's day than to sit in a comfortable armchair before a blazing fire with a bundle of half-forgotten stories by one's side and spend a few idyllic hours recapturing those past pleasures once afforded by our firm favourites. Maybe we have a parcel of red-covered Magnets, blue-covered Gems, or perhaps the green Boys' Friends. Whichever they are, however, the excitement, the humour, the general atmosphere will all return, but this time something else will come with them, and that is adult appreciation.

We all of us have read other stories in our youth besides those of Charles Hamilton. To the unformed mind of a child, practically anything that appears in the way of juvenile literature has some degree of attraction. When, however, years later we come across a copy of some book that used to inflame our imagination, we discover to our dismay that that what we revelled in so long ago and what we treasured in our memories for so many years was really unworthy of our recollection. What we thought was vivid narrative is now revealed as cheap sensationalism; what we thought was fine writing of the highest order is now shown up as barely literate translation of ill-conceived thought into worse-conceived language. In short, it has turned to ashes in our mouths. I, for instance, at the age of eight took more than a passing interest in a weekly feast of horrific fiction published under the name of the Bullseye. But when I came across a copy a year or so ago, I was disappointed in the extreme, and found it difficult to muster enough interest to read one paragraph of the The mental feast had become a surfeit. issue.

This disillusionment is, I suppose, fairly common. It is the yardstick by which we can measure the real literary value of our favourites. Certainly we never tire of a genuine St. Jims or Greyfriars tale. We never feel that the story is laboured, that the characters are artificial, or the style objectionable. For Charles Hamilton stands unquestionably head and shoulders above his fellow authors not because of his prolific output, though that is amazing, but because of the quality of his writing.

There are two main pitfalls for the unwary author of boys'

stories. (Some writers manage to hover between both faults). The first is banal mediocrity as evinced by the substitute writer responsible for Magnet No. 606 "Sports Day at Greyfriars." The second is unrestrained sensationalism, of which there can be little better example than Magnet No. 1053 "In Merciless Hands" the cover of which would have done credit to the most lurid of Hot-But Charles Hamilton steered safely between Sylla and Charybdis, as it were, and his sure touch at the helm gave the Gem and Magnet the longest voyages of any vessel of their class. He was never guilty of writing anything lurid or sensational. Occasionally a story out of the usual would come along in which characters would be acting in a false light in the opinion of some readers, at least. Magnet No. 409 "Harry Wharton & Co's Pantomine"\* shows Nugent in a part which seems out of character. But we must remember here that this story was written by Mr. Hamilton at the express request of the editor. There may be similar good reasons for the appearance of such stories as Magnet No. 1137 "Bunter the Bandit" which makes us feel when we have read it that the moral seems to have been carried further than usual. Would Bunter really have done that? Again in Magnets Nos. 1036-37, which deal with Bunter the Benevolent, a similar issue seems to have been raised \_\_was Bunter capable of such selfabnegation ? But, on the other hand, we welcome extravanza like the tale of the Strong Men of the Remove in Magnets Nos. 1344 -48 because we can accept the premise that a mixture of Monkey-gland syrup will invigorate, and we can sit back and laugh without any inhibitions at the extraordinary effects it has on the always abnormal characters of Bunter and Alfonzo Todd.

We may fancy that we can discover a number of defects in the early stories, but we must remember that if we can it is only because we are judging them by the extremely high standard of the later ones. All of the stories enumerated in the paragraph above are capable of giving great pleasure to any reader; it is only when they are looked as not as separate stories but as parts of a whole we find that they do not seem to fit in. Looking back earlier still, some traits become apparent that would obviously not have been found in the later Magnets.

\*This number of the Magnet No. 409 was erroneously included in Mr. John Shaw's list of Magnet stories which were not by Charles Hamilton. (See No. 7 of the Collector's Miscellany, February, 1947).

## "THE MARVEL"

January 30th, 1904—April 22nd, 1922. 952 issues.
BY HERBERT LECKENBY

-continued from page 142

HE main feature of course, was an extra long Jack, Sam and Pete story, and there were three other completes. The story by S. Clarke Hook was of considerable length and it may have been a try-out for the "Boy's Friend Library" which followed a few months later, for it must be remembered that the first three stories therein were Jack, Sam & Petes. Maybe the original idea was to make it a "Jack, Sam & Pete Library." If so, I for one, am glad the idea was changed.

When the penny series had been running a little over five years the Tom Sayers stories were introduced. These had nothing to do with the famous pugilist of long ago, but a modern character who adopted the name in his youth. They were written by Arthur S. Hardy, one of the best of all sport-story writers. Frequently, too, a stage atmosphere was introduced another subject where the author was on safe ground.

These stories ran in harness with those of Jack, Sam & Pete without interruption for about ten years. During that time the "Marvel" was evidently a steady success. For years, too, R. J. Macdonald illustrated the Tom Sayers stories, only handing over to H. M. Lewis when he joined the R.N.A.S.

At the end of the First War it would appear that the fortunes of the "Marvel" were declining. Changes were made, characters were introduced who had once been popular in other papers. They included the boys of Calcroft School, stories which had first appeared in the "Boy's Friend" twenty years earlier. They were written by Sidney Drew. Another of his well known characters, Ferrers Lord, with Ching Lung, Gan Waga & Co. also made a brief re-appearance. There were too, a few concerning Spec & Co. by H. Clarke Hook, son of the writer of the Jack, Sam & Pete stories. These had had a good run in "Pluck" round about 1906, but seemingly did not take the fancy of the boys of a later day.

Then the familiar green cover was dropped and in its place appeared one of white paper with printing in red and blue. This was the beginning of the end, yet there were some good stories. Richard Randolph (J. N. Pentelow) wrote a series of football

yarns concerning the Maperton Rovers, and there were some really excellent ones on boxing by Alan Edwards. Jack, Sam & Pete were there almost to the finish but relegated to short instalments of a serial.

The last number, 952, appeared April 22nd, 1922, and the following week appeared "Sport and Adventure." So died the second of a once popular trio. "Pluck" had gone six years before but the "Union Jack" did fly breezily for several more years.

Well the old "Marvel" had a run of nearly 29 years altogether, only the "Union Jack", "Boy's Friend," "Gem," "Boys of England," and the "Magnet" had longer records, so it could certainly have nothing of which to be ashamed.

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## THE "BOYS' FRIEND LIBRARY"

Ist. SERIES, SEPT. 1905—MAY 1925 COMPILED BY HERBERT LECKENBY

(continued from page 134)

	216_Two Lancashire Lads	David Goodwin
	217 Sold into Slavery (Jack, Sam & Pete)	S. Clarke Hook
	218_Beyond the Eternal Ice	Sidney Drew
	219_The School Against Him	Henry St. John
	220_The Scholarship Boy	Henry St. John
	221_Off to Canada	David Goodwin
	222—Through Trackless Tibet	Sidney Drew
	223_The Great North West	David Goodwin
	224—The Shame of St. Basils	Henry St. John
	225_Pete's Post Office	S. Clarke Hook
	226—Deep Sea Gold	Reginald Wray
	227_Shunned by the Village	Henry St. John
	228-The Great Mining Swindle (Sexton I	Blake)
	229—Tinker's Schooldays	Cecil Hayter
1	230_Down on His Luck	A. S. Hardy
	231_Kaiser or King	John Tregellis
	232—The Four Musketeers	Cecil Hayter
	233—The Conquest of London	John Tregellis
	234_The Rival Cinematographers	Sidney Drew
	235—The School under Canvas	Prosper Howard
	236_The Flying Armada	John Tregellis
	The state of the s	

(continued)

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Wanted Boys Own Paper Volume 14, Chums 1909, Aldine Robin Hood Library. Sykes, Coton Lane, Tamworth, Staffs. 10

Wanted Aldine and Hendersons Buffalo Bill and Wild West Libraries. Particulars to Coggins, 10 Normans Close, London, N.W. 10.

An Inexpensive Hobby. Collect specimen numbers of old boys papers. I can supply examples from Ching-Ching, Blueskin, Black Highwayman, Island School, Penny Pickwick, Boys of England, Boys Comic Journal, Young Men of Great Britain, Boys of Empire, Boys Leisure, Boys World, Boys Standard, Young Folks, Nuggets, Varieties, Jack Harkaway, many others. 6/6 per dozen. John Medcraft, 64 Woodlands Road, Ilford, Essex.

#### STOP PRESS

WE regret to announce the untimely death of Mr. F. N. Wearing of Liverpool, the well known authority and collector of boys' books on July 10th, at the age of 64. The late Mr. F. N. Wearing was a regular contributor to the pages of this journal and we received a further article from him only a few days before his death. Collectors who possess copies of the Boys of the Empire and other boys' journals published during the beginning of this century carrying readers' announcements will remember his numerous advertisements for the sale and exchange of old boys' papers and bloods. We mourn a sincere correspondent and friend of nearly thirty years standing and extend to all those who are left to mourn his loss our sincerest sympathy.

WE apologise for the delay in the issue of No. 10 of this journal, but pressure of business, holidays and the weather have all been contributary factors.

Printed and published by J. Parks, 2 Irvin Avenue, Saltburn-by-Sea.

## MAY TURPIN,

QUEEN OF THE ROAD.



A ROMANCE.

By the Author of "Dick Turpin, a Romance of the Road 4" Jack Sheppard and Jonathan Wild," &c., &c.

RICHLY HLLUSTRATED.

THE NEWSAGENTS' PUBLISHING COMPANY (LIMITED), 147, FLEET STREET, E.C.

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