

"Tom Brown's School Day's" and Its Author.

"Tom Brown's Schooldays" is one of these books that seem to promise an unending vitality.

It has been bracketed with "Robinson Crusoe" as a boys' classic, but it could hardly stand comparison with Defoe's immortal work, even if comparison were possible. Like many another famous book, it was written for a personal object. "By this time," said its author, who was then living with his wife and family at Wimbledon, "we had a boy of eight, and, thinking over what I should like to say to him before he went to school, I took to writing a story as the easiest way of doing what I wanted." The story was written in the Long Vacation of 1856, and when the manuscript was shown to Alexander Macmillan he at once undertook to publish it. The author appeared on the title-page as "An Old Boy," but soon the secret leaked out, and Thomas Hughes found himself famous.

Everyone now knows that "Tom Brown's Schooldays" described the life of Rugby under the rule of the great Dr. Arnold. It was only natural to suppose that Tom Hughes was the original of Tom Brown, but in the preface to Tom Brown at Oxford the author wrote: "I must take this my first and last chance of saying that he is not I, either as boy or man. . . . When I first resolved to write the book I tried to realise to myself what the commonest type of English boy of the upper middle-class was, so far as my experience went; and to that type I have throughout adhered, trying simply to give a good specimen of the genus." But though this statement may be accepted, it is impossible for any man to write a book about a society and a place with which he has been intimately associated without importing into his work some element of autobiography. Certainly many of the characters were drawn from life, George Arthur having for his prototype Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, afterwards the distinguished Dean of Westminster. On leaving Rugby, Hughes went up to Oriel Oxford, where his brother George already was, taking with him a great cricketing reputation, for in the June of his first year he played against Cambridge at Lord's. He did not attain any great academic distinction, neither, after he was called to the Bar, did he become a greater lawyer. But he worked hard, and became a Q. C. in 1869.

During his residence in Lincoln's Inn Hughes came into close personal relations with Frederick Denison Maurice, and this association proved the strongest influence of his life. He put himself at the disposal of the eager band of Christian Socialists who had gathered about Maurice, attended conferences, gave them legal aid, and undertook missionary tours. He was one of the moving spirits in the founding of the Working Men's College in Great Ormond Street. His lectures did not attract, but the boxing-class which he inaugurated was a great success. After the death of Maurice he was for ten years principal of the college. His enthusiasm for the ideals of this movement led him many years later into considerable difficulty. In conjunction with friends he bought an estate in Tennessee, where a model community was to be established. But the Tennessee seller had the better of his purchasers; the estate proved unproductive, and the early settlers had a hard time of it. The place was named Rugby, a designation which should have been associated with better fortune.

Hughes was always a good sportsman, physically and intellectually. As has been already said, in his first year he played against Cambridge at Lord's; he played football, pulled a good oar, and was a skillful boxer. "How's your cricket?" was a question he often asked in his later years, and what he thought of you depended a good deal on the reply. In religion he was a devout Churchman, but he was strongly in favor of Church reform, and was an active member of a "Church Reform Union." Liberal in his views, he desired that the national church should be as tolerant and inoffensive as possible to all classes of Nonconformists. As a Member of Parliament he took a definite line as a reformer, and always upheld the claims of the working classes; a trades union bill introduced by him was read a second time, but failed to reach a further stage. After the failure of the Tennessee scheme he was appointed a County Court judge, and removed to Chester, where old age advanced upon him happily. Nine years ago Hughes died at Brighton, and was buried there, and in the grounds of his old school a fine statue of him, by Brock, perpetuates his memory.

What is the secret of the lasting charm of "Tom Brown's Schooldays?" Scores of good school stories have been written since and have gone their way to oblivion, but this remains. The reason lies, I think, in its simplicity, its sincerity, its humour, its manliness. It is well written, too, but that is a

minor point in such a book. Also, there is in it that true and almost indefinable spirit of sport which appeals to boys of all ages. And who can forget the reserved and pathetic final chapter in which Tom, hearing of the death of Arnold, travels to Rugby and sits alone in the familiar school chapel? The concluding words sum up all the teaching of Tom Hughes: "And let us not be hard on him if at that moment his soul is fuller of the tomb and him who lies there, than of the altar and Him of whom it speaks. Such stages have to be gone through, I believe, by all young and brave souls, who must wic their way through haroworship, to the worship of Him Who is the King and Lord of heroes. For it is only through our mysterious human relationships—through the love and tenderness and purity of mothers and sisters and wives—through the strength and courage and wisdom of fathers and brothers and teachers—that he can come to the knowledge of Him, in whom alone the love, and the tenderness, and the purity, and the strength, and the courage, and the wisdom of all these dwell for ever and ever in perfect fullness."

Women Angrily Aroused ALL OVER THE DOMINION

Information from various sources in Canada points to the fact that many women have been deceived and induced to use the weak adulterated package dyes put up by unskilled and unscrupulous manufacturers to imitate the popular DIAMOND DYES.

Our Canadian women, thoroughly aroused, after loss of time, money and valuable materials through the use of muddy, blotchy and weak dyes, have directly laid the blame for their losses on the retail merchants who sold them the deceptive dyes.

This action of indignant women has caused many of our retail and wholesale dealers to pack up and return to the manufacturers responsible, their worthless and dangerous dyes.

MORAL:—When ladies decide to do home dyeing work, it pays to use the celebrated and popular DIAMOND DYES, which have been the home friends of the ladies for over 25 years. When buying, see that each package handed to you bears the words DIAMOND PACKAGE DYES. Users of DIAMOND DYES soon become experts in the fascinating work of home coloring, and find that a ten cent package will renew the life of any faded and dingy suit, dress, skirt, blouse, jacket, cape or husband's or son's coat, vest or trousers. Allow no dealer to offer you the something he calls "JUST AS GOOD." No other dyes equal the DIAMOND DYES. Send your name and address to Wells & Richardson Co., Limited, Montreal, P. Q., and you will receive free of cost new Dye Book, Card of Dyed Cloth Samples and Booklet in verse, entitled "The Longjohn's Trip to the Klondike."

Gasolene More Dangerous Than Gunpowder.

Gunpowder is safe when compared with gasolene. Gunpowder stays where it is put while gasolene will expand and burst a can if warmed and it has a ghost which will hunt for a light to ignite it if the can is open or leaking. And, too, gunpowder exerts less heat and force in exploding than gasolene.

Petroleum yields, from distillation, gasolene 1 1/2 per cent., three naphths 14 per cent., kerosene 50 per cent., paraffin, lubricating oils and vasolene. The proportion of gasolene to kerosene being small the new demand for it in large quantities for engines has already increased the price. If this so increases the cost that will be too expensive for use in cleaning carpets and the like, it will be a disguised blessing.

Using gasolene for cleaning any thing in a room in which there is a blaze of any sort is very dangerous, for its gaseous ghost will hunt the flame.

A popular way of burning oneself to death is to use a pan of gasolene, for cleaning some article, in a room in which there is a fire or light.

Among the serious accidents last year were five from gasolene being poured into the wash-boiler. The gasolene floating over the cloths was converted rapidly into vapor which made the air above the stove an explosive compound.

Every day of the year brought an account of a woman burned to death, while cleaning some article with gasolene, by the gas from it reaching a light or a stove.

Seventeen serious accidents were from gasolene being mistaken for kerosene, either by the user taking the wrong can or by a dealer filling the wrong tank, and in seven accidents gasolene was mistaken for water. A mother brought gasolene from the store in a tin bucket and her daughter filled the coffee pot with it and was burned to death by its explosion.

A barber washed some wigs in gasolene and put them in a drawer. Soon, a streak of fire was seen from the stove to the drawer and the wigs were consumed without firing the building.

To dispose of gasolene after use by pouring it into a sink or house sewer is to invite calamity, for it floats on water and continually gives off its vapor. Cleansing with it should be done in the open only. When dirty it should be thrown upon ground which will absorb it while the four winds dissipate its gas.

Clothing can be chemically cleaned by ammonia or benzine soaps without danger. A safe substitute is gelatinized in which 25 per cent. benzine is added to a mass of soap, water and ammonia. It can be handled without spilling; the amount of vapor given off is slight and the amount of inflammable material in it is small.

Perhaps the revenue tax on alcohol for use in the arts will be removed and then potato alcohol may be produced as cheaply as it now is in Germany, and, as a result, will displace gasolene for domestic use.—Finance Chronicle, Montreal.

Lee Learned "Allright."

Like many another New England housewife, Mrs. Green was familiar enough with the old-fashioned "One-Two-Three-Four Cake," the arithmetically progressive recipe for which calls for one cup of butter, two of sugar, three of flour, and four eggs. Her daughter Grace, who married several years ago and went to San Francisco to live, has recently come back with her children for a visit. When the tiniest of her grandsons one day begged for "One-Two-Three-Five" Cake for his supper, Mrs. Greene laughed the delighted laugh of the grandmother.

"Bless the boy!" she cried. "Just hear him trying to count!"

"Oh, Billy can count, mother," said Grace. "But that's what we call the cake now, ever since my Chinese cook began to make it."

"The children are very fond of this particular cake, so soon after Lee's arrival I undertook to teach him to make it. I had learned by that time that it is useless to tell him how to do anything; but I had only to make a dish before him, and then he could make it exactly as well as I."

"So I measured out the butter, sugar and flour, and began to break the eggs. I broke three, one by one, and turned them into the bowl for beating; but as the fourth seemed the least bit 'doubtful,' I stepped to the door and threw it into the pail, and coming back to the table, I broke another egg, which proved to be good."

"Shortly afterward I happened to be in the kitchen when Lee was making this cake. He broke three eggs into the bowl, as I had done, and then stepped to the door and threw out the next egg—which was perfectly good."

"When I protested, he said, 'I makee cake samee Missee.' And when I looked into his expressionless eyes, somehow I knew there was no use in combating the centuries of the Chinese Empire. I gave up, and just changed the name of the cake. It was easier than to make Lee over!"

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We the undersigned have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

WALDING, KINMAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The Guide's Reason.

When the party of three, which included two college professors, entered the hunting-camp in the Maine woods, their attention was attracted to the unusual position of the stove. It was set, says a contributor to the Boston Herald, on posts about four feet high.

One of the professors began immediately to comment upon the knowledge woodsmen gain by observation.

"Now," said he, "this man has discovered that the heat radiating from the stove strikes the roof, and the circulation is so quickened that the camp is warmed in much less time than would be required if the stove was in its regular place on the floor."

The other professor was of the opinion that the stove was elevated to be above the window in order that cool and pure air could be had at night.

The host, being of a practical turn, thought that the stove was set high in order that a good supply of green wood could be placed beneath it to dry.

After considerable argument they called the guide and asked why the stove was in such a position.

"Well," said he, "when I brought the stove up the river I lost most of the stove-pipe overboard, and we had to set the stove up there so as to have the pipe reach through the roof."



THE tough wearing qualities of "Canadian" Rubbers will stand even the rough usage of boyhood. Every rubber bearing "the mark of quality" contains the maximum of wear, style and comfort.

BLATCHFORD'S FILL THE BASKET POULTRY MEATS.

The best poultry tonics and true supplemental nutriment only. Composed of choice beef meal, Sunflower seeds, specially prepared oyster shells, Albuminous Compounds, Iron, Red Pepper, Ginger and Oil, in the correct proportions. Just what poultry require in one unequalled convenient food.

Geo. W. Miller of Green Creek, N. Y. says:—"We raise a few chickens for our own use, about 30. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas was getting an average of two eggs a day. I commenced feeding the FILL THE BASKET POULTRY MEATS on Dec. 5th, but saw no results until about the 15th. Then got three, four, five and eight a day until Christmas and since then until January 4th an even dozen per day. So now I know from personal experience it is a good thing. I feed 1/2 and 3/4 cracked corn."

Mrs. K. W. Durfee, Fosterville, N. Y. "I have been using Blatchford's FILL THE BASKET POULTRY MEATS this winter (1905) for the first time and get such good results that I don't like to get along without it. I am the only one in the neighborhood who realizes anything from their hens this winter."

For sale only by **W. F. DIBBLEE & SON,** Woodstock and Centreville.

The Great Stock Food. PURE SUGAR AND FLAXSEED.

Composed of three elements necessary for profitable feeding, viz.: OIL, SUGAR and ALBUMENOUS COMPOUNDS. Just the elements the ordinary food is lacking in. The OIL keeps the bowels regular and the coat slick and glossy. The SUGAR obtained from Locust Beans only increases the appetite, aids the digestion and is a great energy producer.

The ALBUMENOUS COMPOUNDS, Gentian, Foenugreek, etc., enrich the blood, cause the animal to put on flesh and fat rapidly and tone up the system.

BLATCHFORD'S PURE SUGAR AND FLAXSEED containing pure flaxseed with the oil all in it, contains twice as much oil as the best oil meal. There is no Molasses or Grain Hulls used in BLATCHFORD'S SUGAR AND FLAXSEED. It does not ferment, mould or cause diarrhoea and stomach trouble.

"The best food for stock at one fourth the price of Stock Foods" is what progressive stock owners say.

WHAT IT DOES.

1. Puts a bloom and finish on cattle and horses intended for the Fairs, Shows, etc., or for sale, that nothing else does.
2. That it considerably increases the flow of Milk in Dairy Cattle as much as 18 per cent. in some instances.
3. That it is excellent for horses, keeping the bowels regular and the coat always slick and glossy. It is used in the U. S. Army, by many Fire Departments, Breweries, large Teaming Concerns, and amongst Coachmen where it is desirable that the horses should have a fine showy appearance.
4. That it is very healthful food to give to Hogs. It keeps their bowels regular, tones them up and puts new life into them. Little pigs thrive remarkably upon it. NOTE: The LOCUST BEAN is called the Swine Bread of the East.

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Clapboards for sale.

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CAUTION.

Every person is liable to a penalty of Twenty Dollars who upon any part of any span of any bridge which exceeds forty feet in length rides or drives or permits to be driven any horse, horses or cattle at a pace faster than a walk. It shall be the duty of every constable, policeman and other peace officers to strictly enforce this act by prosecuting as by law directed any person found violating the same. Supervisors of Great Roads, Highway Commissioners and Caretakers of any bridge are also constables, ex-officio, for the purpose of this act. Extract from act for protection of bridges.

ASSESSORS NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have been appointed Assessors of Rates in and for the Town of Woodstock for the present year. All persons owning property in the Town may within Twenty Days give in a statement of their property and income as provided by law. Dated at Woodstock, Feb. 17, 1906.

HUBERT SEELEY, JOHN THIBBIDEAU, THOS. W. DUNCAN, Assessors of Town of Woodstock for 1906.

To Cure a Cold in One Day Cures Grip in Two Days.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. on every Seven Million boxes sold in past 12 months. This signature, *E. W. Grove* box. 25c.