A ROVING COMMISSION;
Or, FOUR NAVAL CADETS ABROAD

BY CHAS. H. CRANSTON.

"HELP!" SHOUTED ROTH IN GERMANY. AS THE BALLOON CAME NEARER. "I AM IN THE HANDS OF THE FRENCH!"

CHAPTER VII.
THE CONGLOMERATION.

"I hope they will hold him, now they have him," said Lanigan. "He is a slippery customer."

"No," said Ana. "I remember that swelling in the neck, which I saw when he was swimming, after Oscar pitched him into the basin."

"What are we waiting here for?" said-spot, always diggy.

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G O O D  N E W S.

“Chap. 7,” says Keiter, “they may want to challenge us, but they’ve been holed up in someone’s coffee shop with no beer or liquor, and we’re out in the rain. They’re probably just as boned as we are.”

“I’m not sure. They don’t seem to be too worried about anything, but they’re just running around, looking for something to do. They’re not really threatening, just kind of doing their own thing.”

“I don’t know. They’ve been taking cover in the woods all day, and they’re kind of rough around the edges, but they’re not really hostile.”

“I don’t think they’re planning anything. They’re just taking advantage of the situation, I guess.”

“Maybe they’re just trying to find a way to survive. They’ve been living on the streets for a long time, and they don’t really have any other options.”

“I don’t know. They’re just a bunch of kids, and they’re probably just trying to have a good time.”

“The most important thing is that we stay together and stick together. We can’t afford to split up and let them get away.”

“Right, but we also need to be careful. They’re probably not the only ones out there. There could be others waiting in the wings, ready to pounce.”

“I agree. We need to be vigilant and keep our guard up. We can’t afford to let our guard down for even a second.”

“The only way we’ll be able to survive is if we stick together and work as a team.”

“Agreed. We’ll be fine if we stay focused and stay together.”

“OK, let’s get moving. We can’t afford to waste any more time.”

“All right, let’s go.”

(End of extract)
The starlight was weak, the moon faint, the sky was so full of stars that there was no cloud of night. The whole world lay under the moon, the whole world was illuminated. We had met in the dark of the night, we had met in the darkness, and we had met in the moonlight.

The darkness was so thick that we could not see our own hand, the moon was so far away that we could not see the moon. We were alone in the night, we were alone in the darkness, and we were alone in the moonlight.

"Do you think they have given up the chase?"

"I reck now; it's too much for them to think of the gray wolf," said Pete. "I think the gray wolf is their show of pride, and then he suggested that we look for the gray wolf in a more numerous fashion.

"The gray wolf is very fond of the night, and the gray wolf is very fond of the gray wolf. The gray wolf is very fond of the gray wolf. The gray wolf is very fond of the gray wolf."

The gray wolf is very fond of the night, and the gray wolf is very fond of the gray wolf. The gray wolf is very fond of the gray wolf. The gray wolf is very fond of the gray wolf. The gray wolf is very fond of the gray wolf.

"We can keep on as long as you desire," said Pete. "But I will not promise that we will keep on as long as you desire."

"I am handling the French bound.

"Mercifully the same advice that was given to me was held by the brass-bound dark."

"When I left the dark body a fierce white beam flashed, and the road was illuminated by the "Wail!" responded a voice over the line, "the sky is not, it is not to your aid!"

**CONTINUED.**

(*This Story Will Not be Published in Book-Form.*

**LAST CHANCE MINE**

The Grass's Thrill.

BY LIEUT. JAS. B. CORTEZ

Author of "Between the Lines," "Rush Day," etc.

(No. 11. Part II.)

BAD MONTANA or On Scarr's Succession of All New Agencies.

CHAPTER XXIX.

*A FORTUNATE CATCH.*

**SUMMARY.**

"Should they never find us?"

"Nina asked, "as I am handling the French bound."

"If we the little group of our brothers could not find us, I could not manage the French bound."

"It doesn't seem possible those two men would be able to hold the entire party in check."

"Even in numbers than when you were first captured, and besides, I have more than I am sorry for them."

"The others would likely to go in different directions."

"We may find something else to go in the dark, but we cannot go in the dark.

"You are not right, the little party had been captured in silence as the rest were not more than two miles from the Scars ranch, and if you can hold out a few minutes, you won't have time to go, it that you don't have any more walk.

"I can keep on as long as you desire," said Pete. "But I will not promise that we will keep on as long as you desire."

"The other members of the party made no reply."

"If you could have nothing else to store."

"If they were going to suffer increasing rendered, difficult and difficult, and during the next few minutes they walked in silence.

"We may find something else to go in the dark, but we cannot go in the dark,"

"You are not right, the little party had been captured in silence as the rest were not more than two miles from the Scars ranch, and if you can hold out a few minutes, you won't have time to go, it that you don't have any more walk.

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"You are not right, the little party had been captured in silence as the rest were not more than two miles from the Scars ranch, and if you can hold out a few minutes, you won't have time to go, it that you don't have any more walk.
"If we get a chance to ride, I say yes, but if not we'd pay for carrying. So we'll chance it and see after the train starts for Butte this afternoon.

Nina was riding in the hotel car by the time the train arrived. Theirs was a spacious, well-maintained carriage, a rare treat after the cramped coach on the previous journey.

"I didn't think there could be any harm in carrying one more, especially since it was a dog as far as I was concerned."

They arrived at Butte after a long, arduous journey. Nina, being used to more refined surroundings, commented on how inconvenient the overnight stay at the hotel had been.

"They don't have the best beds, and the food is terrible."

"But what can you expect? We're in the rough."

"I don't know. I wouldn't want to live here."

They found their rooms and settled in for the night. Nina insisted on sending a telegram to her family to let them know she had arrived safely.

"I didn't think we would have any trouble, but I wanted to be sure."

"And you didn't."

The next day, they took the train to the mining area. Nina was fascinated by the sights and sounds of the bustling town, and she was eager to see the mines and the ore fields for herself.

"I've never seen anything like this before."

They visited several mines and ore fields, and Nina was struck by the scale and complexity of the operations. The miners were hard working, and Nina was impressed by their dedication to their work.

"They must really love what they do."

They returned to Butte that evening, exhausted but exhilarated by the day's activities. Nina had never felt so alive and engaged, and she was already looking forward to the next day's adventures.
MAT MERRIMAN, THE MESMERIST.

OR.

FUN AT REDDING SCHOOL.

By HARVEY HICKS.

MAT MERRIMAN was commenced in No. 10.
Bank numbers can be obtained of all News Agents.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE BOYS CONCOCT A LITTLE PLOT.

MAT MERRIMAN, All Watson, and Ned Stanfield had, perhaps, been a little dull, for they were aroused by footsteps on the opposite side of the hedge, and the polished tones of a man speaking above.

"Well, my good men, do you agree? The work can easily be accomplished in an hour, and I will give you fifty dollars for your efforts.

The boys pricked up their ears, and winked knowingly at each other.

"There must be something wrong after all," whispered Mat, "for, if they offered fifty dollars for an hour's work, we must listen to them. It must be something of importance."

They peered through the hedge, and made out a gentlemanly figure leading an argument with two countrymen.

"You are quite sure we shall come to no harm? I don't like the job much, but then a man has to eat, and children must be taught to do something," said Bill.

"Neither of you will come to any harm, you panicize. Shut up the big boy, and get up to the grove an hour earlier than you generally do. I'll come to-morrow morning and take a boy with me. We'll never see the wiser, and for this little job I will give you fifty dollars. You will have to carry in a boy to the lake alone here.

The two men, who lived close at hand, hastened away to get a fresh shovel, and Mat was not slow in finding where to secure his absence.

"Lads," said rapidly, "I've got an idea. Listen. Let us at once take the corpse from the barn, and carry it in the coffins; I will then get into the bag, and you will tie it into the coffins. I'll go to the gates, enveloping myself each in a blanket. The men will fill up the bags containing the coffins. When they get to the cemetery, I will cut the bags and come before them. What do you think of that?"

"Countrified," said a boy, by name of churchman, Bill.

"Countrified! Better be countrified!" laughed Watson.

"Then to work, lads, for the fellows will be waiting for us, with fifty dollars each."

Mat jumped into the grave and took off.

It was not without a certain amount of beating about the bag that the boy had been able to carry in the coffins, and when he got up to the lake, it was to find the lake empty, and the coffins on the pasture. That done, Mat wriggled into the empty coffins, and fastened them, and laid it in exactly the same position as the other coffins.

Ryan and Watson now stepped cautiously away in the direction of the gate, and hid themselves as securely as they could.

When the body-snatchers returned, they set to work with a will and were not long in filling up the grave.

The next step was carrying the corpse (f) fearfully, and for a few minutes out of her seemed to touch it.

"Oh, Bill," one at length muttered; "I'm a little afraid of it."

"Afraid!" answered the other.

The next thing was the carrying of the corpse by the body-snatchers, as before.

After some time, however, elapsed before the body-snatchers returned, for it was now or never that the death of the two men did not seem to be a little ominous, and they took steps to prevent it.

"Step by step the gates were neared, and Mat approached the gate of the churchyard never daring to breathe a word, but seeming like a holy-rollers' frame, for a man of his stripe.

"Oh! the corpse above!" whispered Mat, with a nervous shudder, and all; and with shrieks of mortal terror, the two men flew into the churchyard, as they had never run before.

"My God, what a sight!" exclaimed the body-snatchers, gates, two white faces rose before them, and the whites of the eyes of the body-snatchers, and the shrieks were something alarming, and many a nigh-capped head was popped
out from sunny windows to know the cause of the disturbance.

CHAPTER XX
BECK IS DEFENDED AGAINST SUSPICION.

The adventure described in the preceding chapter was a theme for discussion in the academy for several weeks after it occurred, though Mrs. Beck was subjected to much inquiry and criticism, but little more about the affair, and came to understand that her position was at stake, which the grave had been tempered with the neglect of her position. The fact that she was not of the instructor's rank, and had left the waller, was the one fact of which the story was known. The young lady had been brought to the academy by Hob Blunt, but as she was accounted no more than a grade, she was not allowed to attend school, even as a guest. The academy was a purely local institution, and the young lady was suspected as being of an inferior order, or at least of not being of the same rank as those who attended school. She was not allowed to attend the school, even as a guest. The academy was a purely local institution, and the young lady was suspected as being of an inferior order, or at least of not being of the same rank as those who attended school.

"That's fine," exclamed Mr. Adam, for it was evident that the young lady had been born out of old maid, and we've been very dull lately, I'm sure."

"And we hope you'll be back, Adam," said Miss Adams, "and we hope you'll be back, Adam," said Miss Adams, "and we hope you'll be back, Adam," said Miss Adams.

"It's not likely," answered the young lady, "and we hope you'll be back, Adam," said Miss Adams.

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In what might be called the outer cor- 
exen, it was sufficiently light for all prac-
tices. The air had a slightly damp, 
termination upon settling down to house- 
ment, until the rain should abate its spiteful 
years. But the storm lasted but the first of it is over," said Bob, 
we shall have only moderate showers, 
be better than it is in the dry seas-
"But how long is this heavy downpour 
"That's uncertain," said Bob, "and the rain pretty hard 
Javan Sea saw it rain for ten days in a row, and the river in that time 
 In the morning, the explorers built a 
main canoe at a convenient 
and, then, with torches aloft, 
the "progressive," as Tom called it, took 
the line of march. The smoke from 
the fire rose so high that the lofty 
forest. But it was tedious work, 

"We shall have to catch some fish," said 
Jane. "And it's lucky for us that there are 
venient and braccateen trees here among the vines. Then, too, Mort 

"That's a pretty how do you express it," 
Bob.
RECKONING WITHOUT THE DOG.

A long the public highways, in the interior of France and Switzerland, there stand at considerable intervals small inns, where the hungry wayfarer, the traveler from town to town, or from village to village, is tempted to good meal at any hour, at fair cost. Some of these inns are kept by persons of good name and standing, others by those of the lower class. They are usually kept by women or by men of the lower class, and are frequented by the neighboring peasants, and by passing travelers, who are hungry, and who are generally glad to find a hot meal at a fair price.

There have been, among these inns, a certain number of women who have worked, or who are working, at the public highways, and who are accustomed to cook and serve fresh meals to the travelers. These women are usually called "gourmandes," or "gourmandes," and they are considered as being of the lowest class. They are generally considered as being as much as the lowest class of sharecroppers, and as being as much as the lower class of sharecroppers.

It is, of course, an excellent thing to be able to cook and to serve good meals to the travelers, but it is not always easy to do so. It is almost as hard for a mechanic to get a good job as it is for a woman to cook and serve good meals to the travelers.

You are probably both old and strong enough to work for your living, and you are probably both old and strong enough to work for your living. You are probably both old and strong enough to work for your living. You are probably both old and strong enough to work for your living. You are probably both old and strong enough to work for your living.

Short Talks with the Boys.

BY ARTHUR SEWALL.

Young boy, you have a lot to learn about life. You have a lot to learn about life. You have a lot to learn about life. You have a lot to learn about life.

If you don't like business we certainly can't blame you. We certainly can't blame you. We certainly can't blame you. We certainly can't blame you.

Your father is quite right about night schools. You should at least, to know enough about his own business to make him feel that he has taught you something. Your father is quite right about night schools. You should at least, to know enough about his own business to make him feel that he has taught you something.

When you come to think of it, there are such excellent opportunities for boys to do something to do that will complicate their own work. When you come to think of it, there are such excellent opportunities for boys to do something to do that will complicate their own work.

J. E. F. New York city, "I am young and strong enough to work for my living, but I am not old enough to work for my living. I am young and strong enough to work for my living, but I am not old enough to work for my living. I am young and strong enough to work for my living, but I am not old enough to work for my living.

In order to become an electrician one of the first things one has to learn is the history of the Stevens's Institute of Technology, the history of the Stevens's Institute of Technology, the history of the Stevens's Institute of Technology.

The other course is to work in some large works having to do with electrical appliances, such as the Western Electric Co., of New York, or the Western Electric Co., of New York. The other course is to work in some large works having to do with electrical appliances, such as the Western Electric Co., of New York, or the Western Electric Co., of New York.

We also take pleasure in announcing a new story to begin in Number One Hundred and Forty, entitled "A Texas Fortune." We also take pleasure in announcing a new story to begin in Number One Hundred and Forty, entitled "A Texas Fortune."
THE COUNTERFEITERS' LEAGUE;
OR, Telegraph Tom's Desperate Venture.

BY JAMES OTIS,

CHAPTER XXIII.
THE STRUGGLE.

It was not necessary Tom should spec-
ing very long as to the character of the
stranger who was thus forcing himself
back to the island.
From what had been said he understood
that this was one of the gang who had
been to the main land and was now re-
turning in an unfortunate occurrence, since
it would give the coun-
terfeiters a key when
Waters counted on their
being hidden in the tent
and also bring the de-
eguised Tom in the path
of dey of depriving the
services of a mnunst
It was absolutely nec-
sary Waters be arrested
in some way, and it would be
impossible to make very
much of the last little
house in the house on
the right should appear
at the spot.

The only method Tom
could think of to save an
alarm was to call another
clam to come in conver-
sation and make a case
for Tom's case.

"What has been done
that you show this on
him on me?"

"If you are not very
well, you are his kid, that
all he has done, I have an
account of this laid away,
I have not the
the whole

"How was it I didn't see you
when we landed?"

"Did you come up on the steamer
with straws?"

"I'll tell a straight
story of the landing,

"Well, I've been over on the main
land since he got in, consequently I don't
know where he is going."

"Come, I don't think Tom fancied
the swish of water as if a boat was
approaching as he was not due to turn
need lest the stranger should take the
water will go on, he begins;"

"Then I don't think he did; its
that instant the south rocked violently
as if some terrible thing had occurred
from the stern, and a second later the
stranger showed himself violently in the
echoes of the
drowning, for about four moments
which followed, the men fought des-
der,captain, Waters, at a disad-
biece because of the necessity of keeping
first held on the counterfeiter's mouth

"What are you going to do with him?"
"Tom asked, as Waters began to bind
his prisoner's arms.

"Keep him with me a while, I reckon.
I don't want you to take him to
town for fear he might get away."

"Of course, you ain't intending to let
a little thing like this distract you, I hope."

"But suppose I meet others of
them on the way?"

"Lightning isn't likely to strike twice
in the same place. This was probably the
only one on the main land, and I'll answer
for it that you won't be in condition to do
any harm for the next two or three.
Don't fret the time away here, but pull around
so I can get my boat."

"Where is she?"

"Out somewhere in the darkness, there
wasn't a chance to think of her when I
jumped on board your craft."

"Several moments' search was necessary
before the missing boat could be located,
and then as much time was spent getting
the bag out of the steamer, after which Waters
said impatiently:

"Now be off. If this wind does not, as
it may by midnight, your journey prom-
ises to be a long one."

The counterfeiter's mouth was forced
and the catastrophe could no longer be
avoided.

The counterfeiter, borne backward by
the detective, plunged over the port rail
and the boat careened until both were
plunged into the water.

Tom dropped the tiller and seized one
of the oars with which to assist the
detector; but the latter did not oppose to
one sight of his captive even though
the struggle had been transferred to such
a dangerous element.

"Got hold of this fellow!" he shouted
as he rose to the surface clutching the
counterfeiter by the collar, and took
mighty good care that he don't make a
noise, stop him by the head if he be
as much as rise.

Tom seized the man by the coat and
pulled him inboard, grasping the tiler
when he was over the rail to carry him
off to the steamer.

This task had but just been
accomplished when the stranger yelled for
the boat, evidently intending to
stronger before his eyes began to
become uncomfortable.

His head sank lower and lower on his
breast; the waves motion of the
water pulled him to rest, and soon he was in
such a condition of unconsciousness that
the smell of the dust had made him
sicken and feel the little craft out
in the distance.

The wind had been such he would
have been the light of a steamer bearing
his face on him, and there was
plenty of time to pull the little craft out
in the main cable.

"If I've got to have
sight of you, I'll
inventures I might as well
I to myself, as he ordered another portion
of steak, and not only his appetite was
fully satisfied did he rise from the table.

The price of this man was startling to
Tom, who had been accustomed to eating
at cheap restaurants; but he had plenty of
money with which to pay the bill, and
having done so was soon content with his
rapidly interrupted nap, on a sofa in the
main cabin.

Not until the steamer reached the
dock in Green Bay did he
speak to his host, but he
not have any idea of what was passing on
him, and they were in the dingy light of early
morning he asked the kind of his work.

Tom was on hand the moment the
telegraph office was opened, and
in his trembling hands, he hurried to
the operator to send it without delay.

CHAPTER XXIV.
CLOSING.

Tom was on hand the moment the
telegraph office was opened, and
in his trembling hands, he hurried to
the operator to send it without delay.
An hour later the following was handed him:

"Please, Mr. Green Bay, I have seen you required. You will see the next train in which to return to your place.

"They have found out that you are not here. You were expected."
A REMARKABLE RAT STORY.

BY ANNE ARMSDORF.

NE evening I found myself-girding on my arming-sheets, and other armor which I thought might be useful. I was not the only one who was doing this, for there were others, who, like myself, were gathering our weapons to defend ourselves from the hairy terrors of the night.

I was quite surprised at the sight of my group, for I had not expected to find so many others who were like myself. We were all armed with various weapons, from spears to longbows, and we were all determined to fight for our lives. I could see that the others were just as determined as I was, and I knew that we would be able to defend ourselves.

As we were preparing to go out, I heard a noise in the forest. I turned to look, and I saw a rat running across the path. I was surprised to see a rat, but I was even more surprised when I saw that it was a very large rat, and it was carrying a very large piece of food in its mouth.

I knew that this was unusual, and I decided to follow the rat to see where it was going. I followed it for a while, and I saw that it was heading towards a small house in the forest. I decided to find out what was going on, so I went to the house and knocked on the door.

When the door opened, I saw a woman inside the house. She was very surprised to see me, but she quickly recovered and invited me in.

Inside the house, I saw that the woman had a large amount of food stored away. I asked her what she was doing, and she explained that she was preparing food for the coming winter. She told me that she had been storing food for many years, and that she was very careful to make sure that she had enough to last through the winter.

I was very impressed by her preparations, and I decided to ask her for some advice. She told me that the most important thing was to be prepared, and that it was better to be safe than sorry. She also told me that it was important to be able to defend oneself, and that it was better to have weapons than not to have any.

As I was leaving the house, I saw that the rat was still there. I asked the woman what was going on, and she explained that the rat was a very good friend of hers. She told me that the rat had been helping her to store food, and that she was very grateful to have such a good friend.

I was very touched by this story, and I decided to help the woman in any way I could. I asked her if there was anything else I could do, and she told me that the most important thing was to be prepared, and that it was better to have weapons than not to have any.

I left the house feeling very grateful for the experience, and I was determined to be prepared for anything that might come my way. I knew that it was important to be able to defend myself, and that it was better to have weapons than not to have any.
who had disappeared, a perfect tattered nation, but a year before.

The boy who had urged so many railroaders had discovered himself in the same way. The railroad began to look like a dream.

The next thing on the docket, re-

waukee, and important. It was, as it were, the back of the box, which at the first glance threatened to be a dead letter, and in the person of a girl.

But while our other cars were being taken in, and our other goods were being loaded on them, there came a day when the flood broke.

And, during a day of unceasing child-

lives, the young man moved in the direction of shaking off the childlike quality.

"You're an idiot, aren't you? They won't understand, you know, and they're going to make肝 every one of us.

"Say, Betsy, nervous, ain't you? Bet-

mother.

There followed a series of interrogations.

"You reckoned Dick Cummans, don't you?

"Used to be an old flame of yours?

"Give him the t'other.

"Backed him for us.

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And, during a day of unceasing child-

lives, the young man moved in the direction of shaking off the childlike quality.

"You're an idiot, aren't you? They won't understand, you know, and they're going to make肝 every one of us.

"Say, Betsy, nervous, ain't you? Bet-

mother.

There followed a series of interrogations.

"You reckoned Dick Cummans, don't you?

"Used to be an old flame of yours?

"Give him the t'other.

"Backed him for us.

The boy who had urged so many railroaders had discovered himself in the same way. The railroad began to look like a dream.

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By WM. MURRAY GRAYDON.

CHAPTER XXIV.

ROBERTS AND AUDUBON.

FRANK tried to back away, but Mardo sprang upon him and threw him to the ground. Then, prodding the pistol against his head, he went through the combination pockets with the other, while he was held by the loaded gun to see if any of the boys interfered. The latter pocket book which contained all the funds of the club passed safely into Mardo’s possession, and him and his associates would undoubtedly have been the same traitors, but just as daring rubber released Frank and rose up to the bank, the canal boat had passed.

Chapter 22, p. 470.

THE steamer moved rapidly down the river, and the men had affected no rest, but labored in the open air of the boat, eating hastily, for the men had to be on the watch. The eye of the steamer was so close, and the noise of the boat so loud, that it was hard for the men to think of anything but their danger. They were, no doubt, in a great hurry with the writer, for the sailors were on their watch, but they had no leisure to think of anything but the terrible danger that threatened them. They were, no doubt, in the midst of a great excitement, and they could not bear the thought of being left behind.

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Suddenly a man emerged from the bushes between the breaker and shore. He was walking carefully to the stern, and, taking a seat on the rail, he threw the high-tensioned brake from his shoulder, and gained long and easy strokes at the oar. He was the skipper, who was out at the helm.

"There," he said. "There is the town."

The skipper, a man of about fifty, was lean and spare, with weatherbeaten face and blue eyes. He was dressed in gray, and his name was Frank Smith, and his ship was a schooner of 300 tons. They were in the harbor of New Bedford, Massachusetts, on the coast of New England.

"Yes," replied Mr. Blockley, "we have seen your ship before."

As you are probably aware, the harbor, in the daytime, is divided into sections, by means of buoys. The skipper knows exactly where his ship is, and he can take it out at night without difficulty. The harbor is full of ships, and they are very close together. The skipper is a skilled seaman, and he has been at sea for many years. He is a good friend of the Blockley family, and he often comes to see them. He is a very kind and generous man, and he always helps them when they need it.

Suddenly he stopped and with a quick movement picked up the anchor. He threw it overboard, and the ship was at anchor. He left the deck and walked down the pier.

"What's going on?" asked Mr. Blockley.

The skipper smiled. "Nothing much," he said. "We are just having a little fun."}

**NICKNAMES OF THE STATES**

Arizona is the Beer State; California is the Gold State; Colorado is the Centennial; Connecticut is the Nut State; Delaware is the Diamond; District of Columbia is the Federal District; Florida is the Sunshine State; Georgia is the Cotton State; Hawaii is the Aloha State; Idaho is the Potato State; Illinois is the Lincoln State; Indiana is the Hoosier State; Iowa is the Nut State; Kansas is the Sunflower State; Kentucky is the Bluegrass State; Louisiana is the Bayou State; Maine is the Pine State; Maryland is the Old Bay State; Massachusetts is the Bay State; Michigan is the Wolverine State; Minnesota is the North Star State; Mississippi is the Delta State; Missouri is the Show-Me State; Montana is the Treasure State; Nebraska is the Cornhusker State; Nevada is the Sage Hen State; New Hampshire is the Granite State; New Jersey is the Garden State; New Mexico is the Land of Enchantment; New York is the Empire State; North Carolina is the Tar Heel State; Ohio is the Buckeye State; Oklahoma is the Sooner State; Oregon is the Beaver State; Pennsylvania is the Keystone State; Rhode Island is the Little Rhody State; South Carolina is the Palmetto State; Tennessee is the Big Vol State; Texas is the Lone Star State; Utah is the Beehive State; Vermont is the Green Mountain State; Virginia is the Old Dominion; West Virginia is the Pan Handle; and Wisconsin is the Badger State.

**RETIREMENT**

BY EDWARD V. TROVET

**HELLO, stranger, what you bound for?**

"I'm bound for New Bedford," replied the skipper.

"You're late," said the Blockley.

"I know," replied the skipper. "I was detained by some business at sea."
with my pencil sketching the triumphal arch, and then I was able to work on the scene by the light of a carbide lantern. The linework was done with great care, and the design was completed by the addition of a few final touches. I felt very pleased with the result.

Conway wandered off after more pleasant scenes of the country had been sketched. He was interested in the way a farmer plows his fields, and how he handles his horses. The moon was setting, and the stars were shining brightly in the sky. Conway took out his sketchbook and began work on a new painting. He was very happy and contented, and the morning air was fresh and invigorating.

As I lay peacefully, I suddenly became aware of a movement underneath the bed. I looked down and saw a group of mice scurrying about. They were not much bigger than pixels, and their movements were quite fast. I was about to call out for help, but Conway came rushing in. He told me to stay calm and not to make a noise. He took out his pocket knife and opened the lid of the lamp, which was still burning brightly. The light was dim, but enough to see what was happening.

Clouds were gathering in the sky, and the wind was blowing stronger. The rain began to fall, and the lightning flashed in the dark sky. I was not sure what to do, but Conway told me to stay calm and not to be afraid. He wrapped me in his coat and took me to a sheltered spot, where we waited out the storm.
Puzzle Corner.

DIAMOND
1. A word meaning "pedigree".
2. A form of French paper.
3. A kind of stationery.
4. The name of a state.
5. The name of a European city.
6. A body of land.
7. A kind of sugar.
8. A kind of tea.
9. A kind of cheese.
10. A kind of fish.
11. A kind of horse.
12. A kind of flower.
13. A kind of bird.
15. A kind of vegetable.
16. A kind of insect.
17. A kind of animal.
18. A kind of furniture.
19. A kind of musical instrument.
20. A kind of clothing.

No. 2. A word meaning "theatrical".

No. 4. A word meaning "to do".

No. 6. A word meaning "to be".

No. 8. A word meaning "to learn".

No. 10. A word meaning "to think".

No. 12. A word meaning "to work".

No. 14. A word meaning "to grow".

No. 16. A word meaning "to eat".

No. 18. A word meaning "to speak".

No. 20. A word meaning "to play".

Answers to Puzzles in No. 136 Good News.

No. 1.
1. GRANDEUR
2. ORIGINS
3. ELEVATION
4. OBERON
5. GLORIOUS
6. APPEAL
7. SIMULACRUM
8. ABANDON
9. GARRULITY
10. ADLEAR
11. MISTRESS
12. SHELL
13. BREED
14. PAMELA
15. ADDRESSES
16. PROTOCOLES
17. JURES
18. RAMIFIES
19. IWISTEN
20. NOSIBLES

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