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The Boy From Up Country

"Are you Mr. John Whiting?" the boy inquired. "Yes." "When you are at leisure I'd like to talk to you."

"Come in," he said. A slender man quickly entered and closed the door behind him. "Ah, Runkle," said the man at the round table. "I'm glad to see you. He helped prevent them from carrying out their up one of the slips. The third and fourth are in the factory where you are sure to find him."

"What was your business?" the man at the window asked. "I wanted you to give me a job. 'Didn't you know that Mr. Whiting never sees applicants for work?'"

"What's your name?" "Thomas Clayton." "Where's your home?" "Update. I've been living on a farm near Bruceville."

"Come down to make my fortune. Didn't get here until this morning. Should have been here yesterday. The freight train got derailed and I had to do some walking. Then I helped a fellow get his automobile out of a hole in the road and he gave me a ride. An I walked some more, and a fellow who couldn't handle his young horse gave me another ride. I did the driving—and now I'm here."

"Your trip didn't cost you much," said the detective, his eyes on the shrewd young man. "None. I had just \$37 when I started, and I've got \$53 now."

grasp he gave a quick cry and two other men ran from the shelter of a nearby doorway to his assistance. There was the gleam of a knife—then came a frightful roar and a crash of glass and the boy reemerged no more.

"That's a poor way to make money," said the boy. "They'll make no money here," replied the officer. But they may do some mischief. We hope to catch them before they get the chance. Your keen eyes have suggested an additional way of blocking their game. He turned to the factory owner. "Look the lad over, Mr. Brown. Then he turned to his desk. Whiting has been and he's quick and from a drawer drew two other hand slips of paper and compared them with the first. He was doing this thing he is expected to do he when a light rap at the door drew his attention.

"I can do that very quickly," replied the detective. Beginning from to-morrow morning you are to watch the factory from the outside. You are to watch in a way that will avert suspicion. You are to keep a sharp lookout for the three men you saw in the outer office. If you see one of them you will prevent him from doing harm if you can. Do you know what a bomb is?"

"I've read about them." "No doubt these fellows will endeavor to set a bomb against the office. I size them up as being of that stripe. You must look out for this. You'll have to change your clothes and you ought to be employed at something."

"I thought over what the detective had told him the night before. He understood why he could do this work better than an older man. If an officer did the watching the plot would take some secret means for securing revenge. This the detective wanted to avoid. He wanted the desperate fellows to believe the coast was clear while he closed in upon them from the outside."

"He was standing in a doorway of the factory at a little distance from the office front when a man crossed the street and passed him at a leisurely pace. The man's hat was pulled down, and his coat collar turned up. He did not look at the boy but the boy's eyes searched the half hidden face of the man. He waited a moment until the man had passed a little ahead and then he slipped from the doorway and followed him. Without stopping the man stooped and left a brown package on the broad out-of-all of an office window, and at once quickened his pace. The boy following close, caught up the package, which gave forth a whirring sound as he raised it, and with a strong swing flung it across the highway and beyond the opposite sidewalk where it fell on the loose soil of the vacant lot. Then he started after the fleeing suspect. In a half dozen strides he caught him, and clutched him and held him fast. As the fellow struggled in the strong

"What happened?" "Well, you saved the office and several lives—perhaps mine—by your quick handling of the bomb. In fact, the bomb may have saved you, one of the workers had a long knife in his hand when we picked him up. Two of the fellows were badly hurt, and the third one was held in your brotling grasp. All three, if alive, will be sent where they can do no more harm."

"A Blue Ribbon Bow. A little girl, with a very small brown braid tied with a very large blue ribbon walked down the street, trying to look behind herself to see the effect of the splendid bow. But every time she turned her head the bow turned too so that it was never where she could see it."

"The old gentleman stared harder than before. Two looking glasses and a hat were in his hand. He said to himself: 'And what would a plain old man like me be doing with one looking glass, let alone two?'"

"The other children thought Grandfather's sight must be very, very poor for Maud's pretty curls were tied with an old black shoestring. But Maud understood what Grandfather meant."

"Moving a Town in a Boat. The transitory nature of life in Alaska is shown by an incident in the P. A. Cook's account of his ascent of Mount McKinley. 'To the Top of the Continent' He was in search of a town on Yenina River when 'at about 10 o'clock we saw a dory drifting down the stream. A corpulent miner with all kinds of things was in the boat. To our question, 'How far to Youngtown?' he answered, 'It used to be twenty miles away, but it just moved. I have the town in the dory and am taking it down the stream.'"

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