

Saved In the Nick of Time

By RUTH W. MALTBY

The early settlers in Kentucky came largely from the same direction. Reaching America from the old world, they settled in Pennsylvania, later emigrated to western Virginia, and having worked out their lands there, moved across the Ohio river to appropriate the virgin soil of Kentucky.

Among these movers was a family named Martin, the father and mother being elderly persons, their elder children grown. A daughter, Hester, was a girl of eighteen. They settled not far from where Bowling Green is now situated.

The war of 1812 was being fought and soon after the arrival of the Martins in their new home the battle of New Orleans was fought and won by the Americans, or, rather, the woods-men of the west, among whom the hunters of Kentucky were conspicuous. The war had been ended by treaty before the battle, though the news of peace had not yet got across the Atlantic, and soon after it was over the troops came marching home.

A company of Kentuckians recruited from the region about where the Martins lived was disbanded, and a young man, Abner Armstrong, who had marched away and returned as a lieutenant, was among the number. At the time of his appearance John Bartlett, a man of forty years of age, had asked Martin for his daughter Hester's hand. There were many mouths to feed in Martin's family, and Bartlett was the only suitor who had established himself in the new country, therefore Martin persuaded Hester to marry him.

But before the wedding had taken place along came the soldiers whose rifles had won the battle of New Orleans. Young Armstrong was a strapping, faxen haired, blue eyed boy with every appearance of manliness, but with an engaging smile. Hester looked at him and surrendered.

There is but little reason in youth. Instead of confessing to her father and her betrothed, that she had not known what love was and that, having discovered it in the young soldier, she had changed, Hester resolved on the most desperate course to be conceived of. She told Armstrong, who was as deeply smitten with her as she was with him, that she could never face either her father or her betrothed to tell them of the change in her and the only course left for them was to run away. It was not likely that one who had but recently helped to win a battle, should show the white feather.

The only means of conveyance in those days in Kentucky was a horse. Armstrong had but one animal, but it served for both. They started on an afternoon, and their flight was discovered about 9 o'clock the same night. Bartlett was notified, and when he learned how he had been treated he said:

"I'll go after em and bring 'em back. You'll tell 'em they kin git married for all me as soon as they like."

With this he mounted his horse, his rifle slung to his saddle and pistols in his holster, for no one went about un-armed in those wild days, and assuming that the fugitives would make for the Ohio river, he rode straight northward. About midnight he saw a lurid light on the clouds to the northeast, and, thinking the fugitives had bivouacked and built a fire, he turned his horse's head in that direction. Suddenly he reined in to a stand and listened. A distant confused barking fell upon his ear. He shuddered. A gleam came before his mind's eye pointing to the hand of experience. A Kentuckian, he knew that the barkers he heard were those of wolves and that one of the ways of fighting wolves was by fire. He saw the girl he had hoped to make his wife and the man she had eloped with besetged by hungry beasts.

Urging forward his horse, guided by the light, the barkers growing more distinct as he approached, he finally leapt in upon the very scene he had pictured. Armstrong and Hester occupied the center of a circle of fire they had built to keep off the pack. Armstrong's ammunition had been expended, and whenever a wolf snarled to close he beat it back with the barrel of his rifle or with a burning brand. Hester, like a true daughter of the forest, was bravely arranging the wood they had gathered to keep it burning.

Having ridden as far as his terrified horse would go, Bartlett dismounted and, aiming at a wolf, shot him dead. Then, while the pack were devouring their companion, the rifle was reloaded and another wolf was brought down. Drawing nearer to the besetged couple, Bartlett called upon them to run toward him while he covered their retreat. They started, Hester in advance. The wolves sprang after them, and just as their leader was about to spring upon Armstrong, who was moving with his face to them, Bartlett shot the beast dead. This gave Armstrong time to make good his retreat, and before the wolves had finished eating the carcass already slain the three persons had got away.

The next morning all appeared at the Martin home. Bartlett, without a word of reproach, released Hester from her engagement to him, and her father consented to her marriage with Armstrong as soon as he had a cabin to get her in. But the latter proved a better soldier than planner and never got the cabin. In time Hester married Bartlett of her own free will.

PROPOSITION NUMBER ONE.
STATE OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, July 22, 1912. Pursuant to the provisions of section four of article seven of the Constitution of the State of New York, and section two hundred and ninety-five of the Election Law, and of section nine of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, notice is hereby given that chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, of which the following is a copy, was submitted to the people for their vote at the general election to be held on the fifth day of November, nineteen hundred and twelve. EDWARD LAZANSKY, Secretary of State.

CHAPTER 208.
AN ACT making provision for issuing bonds to the amount of not to exceed fifty million dollars for the purpose of constructing and improving state and county highways, and providing for a submission of the same to the people to be voted upon at the general election to be held on the fifth day of November, nineteen hundred and twelve. Passed, three-fifths being present.

The People of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly do enact as follows: Section 1. Bonds authorized. There shall be issued in the manner and at the time hereinafter provided bonds to the amount of not to exceed fifty million dollars which bonds shall be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided. The bonds shall be sold in such manner and at such times as may be determined by the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 2. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 3. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 4. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 5. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 6. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 7. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 8. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

Section 9. The board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, shall have the honor to certify to the board of directors of the state highway fund, created by section one of chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred and twelve, the amount of the bonds to be sold by the state and the proceeds thereof shall be used for the purposes hereinafter provided.

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EXPLANATION—MATTER IN ITALICS IS NEW.
STATE OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, July 22, 1912. Pursuant to the provisions of section one of article fourteen of the Constitution of the State of New York, and section two hundred and ninety-five of the Election Law, notice is hereby given that the following proposed amendment to section seven of article six of the Constitution of the State of New York is referred to the Legislature at the next general election of senators in this State to be held on the fifth day of November, nineteen hundred and twelve. EDWARD LAZANSKY, Secretary of State.

AMENDMENT NUMBER THREE.
Concurrent Resolution of the Senate and Assembly, proposing an amendment to section seven of article six of the Constitution, in relation to the county courts. The existing county courts are continued, and the judges thereof now in office shall hold their offices until the expiration of their respective terms. The county of Kings shall be divided into two county courts. The number of county judges in any county may also be increased, from time to time, by the Legislature, to such number that the total number of county judges in any county shall not exceed one-fourth of the population of such county. The additional county judges shall be chosen at the next general election held after the adoption of this article. The additional county judges in the county of Kings shall be chosen at the next general election held in the first odd-numbered year after the adoption of this amendment. The county of Kings shall be divided into two county courts. The number of county judges in any county may also be increased, from time to time, by the Legislature, to such number that the total number of county judges in any county shall not exceed one-fourth of the population of such county. The additional county judges shall be chosen at the next general election held after the adoption of this article. The additional county judges in the county of Kings shall be chosen at the next general election held in the first odd-numbered year after the adoption of this amendment.

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AMENDMENT NUMBER TWELVE.
Concurrent Resolution of the Senate and Assembly, proposing an amendment to section seven of article six of the Constitution, in relation to the county courts. The existing county courts are continued, and the judges thereof now in office shall hold their offices until the expiration of their respective terms. The county of Kings shall be divided into two county courts. The number of county judges in any county may also be increased, from time to time, by the Legislature, to such number that the total number of county judges in any county shall not exceed one-fourth of the population of such county. The additional county judges shall be chosen at the next general election held after the adoption of this article. The additional county judges in the county of Kings shall be chosen at the next general election held in the first odd-numbered year after the adoption of this amendment.

COPPERPLATE ENGRAVING.

The Art Was Discovered Through the Merest Accident.

Every one has noticed on his visiting card the extremely delicate lines of his name, and almost every one knows that they are produced by printing from an engraved copperplate. Like many other things of use and beauty, this art of copperplate engraving was discovered through the merest accident by the goldsmiths of Florence in the fifteenth century.

It is a historical fact, however, that one day an engraver on gold, wishing to take a proof of his work, made the usual sulphur cast and then filled up the lines with lampblack, thus enabling him to see exactly how his work looked. While occupied in doing this it occurred to him that possibly the same results could be obtained by filling up the original engraving with lampblack instead of making an impression of it and filling up with the lines with lampblack, but he put it into practical use and, with a little damp paper, succeeded in getting a fair impression from the engraving.

The discovery was communicated to other workers in the art, and they hailed it with joy, as it saved all the arduous trouble of making sulphur casts, but they never saw the full value of the discovery, and consequently the art of plate engraving lay for almost a century before its true import was discovered and brought out in all its great and beautiful results.

Today collectors of plate engravings have over the crude results of earlier times and search the world for examples of these early masters to add to their collections. Many of these collections have been presented to museums, where they may be seen and appreciated by the people.

AIDED THE AERONAUT.

Washington Was the Godfather of Aviation in America.

Apparently George Washington was not only the Father of His Country, but also something like the godfather of aviation in America. At any rate, he wrote a letter for one M. Blanchard, who made the first balloon ascension in this country at Philadelphia in 1783. The letter reprinted in St. Nicholas reads:

"George Washington, president of the United States of America. To all whom these presents shall come.

"The bearer hereof, Mr. Blanchard, a citizen of France, proposing to ascend in a balloon from the city of Philadelphia, at 10 o'clock a. m. this day, to pass in such direction and to descend in such place as circumstances may render most convenient.

"These are, therefore, to recommend to all citizens of the United States, and others that in his passage, descent, return or journeying elsewhere they oppose no hindrance or molestation to the said Mr. Blanchard, and that, on the contrary, they receive and aid him with that humanity and good will which may render honor to this country and justice to an individual so distinguished by his efforts to establish and advance an art, in order to make it useful to mankind in general.

"Given under my hand and seal, at the city of Philadelphia, this ninth day of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, and of the independence of America the seventeenth.

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

A Japanese Idea.

The late Mutsuhito, emperor of Japan, on an occasion shortly before his death took a railway journey in the northern part of Japan and arrived at his destination half an hour late on account of a slight accident on the road. Next day the manager of the road committed suicide, giving as the reason for his act the fact that his bad management had inconvenienced the emperor. The case attracted a great deal of attention, and some of the leading men of Japan, commenting on the dead man's act, criticised his point of view. In the eyes of his fellow townsmen, however, his deed was commendable, for they erected a statue in his honor as an ideal exponent of the Japanese conception of loyalty.

A Funny Siamese Custom.

They have a very funny fashion in Siam. When an inferior comes into the presence of a superior he throws himself upon the ground. Then the superior sends one of his attendants forward to see whether the prostrate man has been eating anything or has any offensive odor about him. If he be blameless in this respect the attendant raises him from the ground, but if he be guilty the attendant straightway kicks him out.

A Useful Paragraph.

Singleton (reading)—It is said that the last word in an argument is often the most dangerous. Weddery—Would you mind letting me have that paper? Singleton—What do you want it for? Weddery—I want to show that paragraph to my wife.

Pretty Long at Times.

"I believe honesty pays in the long run." "So do I. But I often wish it were not such a mighty long run."—Chicago Record-Herald.

He Didn't Count.

Mr. Timid (hearing a voice at 3 a. m.)—I think dear, that there is a burglar in the house. Wife (sneezing)—Not in the room.—London Sketch.

RAZANSKY