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A JULY 4 STORY A LIVELY FOURTH

WHEN Aunt Lizzie caught Luke flying from the haymow to the barn floor she and Uncle Henry agreed that they could endure their nephews no longer.

Of course both Uncle Henry and Aunt Lizzie were very busy, as is always the case on a farm in summer. So the letter was put off, and the city parents of Mark and Luke supposed the boys were reveling in outdoor life instead they were sad prisoners in the little bedroom of the garret.

On the 2d of July there came an express box and a letter for Masters Mark and Luke Sharp. The box contained eight packs of firecrackers, a lot of torpedoes and enough pinwheels, skyrockets, roman candles and other interesting things to keep two patriotic boys busy all day and part of the night. Aunt Lizzie shut her lips tight, hid the box away and went about her work.

When the box was opened and Aunt Lizzie saw what was in it she quickly closed it, tossing the letter back into it unread.

"There is no use talking," she said to herself, "I cannot and will not tolerate such mischief and stupidity. They must go home."

It was 10 o'clock Fourth of July morning before she ever thought of the letter again. Then she went and read it.



IN MADDERM HOP.

My Darling Boys—I am sure you are having a most delightful time with dear Aunt Lizzie and Cousin Leonard and all. It is luncheon here without you, but when I think of the small chances you would have of play and the little, stuffy room you would have to sleep in this hot weather I am glad you can enjoy the wide, open country and the fresh air. Papa sends you a box of fireworks, and hopes you will have a most glorious Fourth. We both send our best love to our dear boys, and also to Aunt Lizzie and Uncle Henry. Your affectionate MAMMA.

Aunt Lizzie hardly knew whether to feel provoked or sorry, but her pity for the boys won.

When dinner was ready Mark and Luke were invited down, and after a lecture by Aunt Lizzie they received their letter and the box. Their joy was more than they could contain. They shouted and danced and were eager to commence firing at once. Aunt Lizzie required them first to promise that they would not go outside of the orchard and that they would be very careful. She also promised to ask Cousin Leonard to help them with the pinwheels, rockets and candles in the evening.

When Mark proposed to set off one of the roman candles through the hole in the fallboard of a wagon the fun began. Next Luke set off a roman candle through the hole.

Then Mark proposed lighting one of the pinwheels—unhappy thought. The stream of powder and smoke was turned squarely on Luke, and as Luke screamed Mark threw the wheel to the floor. Let loose, it started a lively chase around the wagon box. It made the Sharp boys hop. It found the rest of the pinwheels, the firecrackers, roman candles and rockets, in less time than it takes to tell if they were all doing their very best to celebrate the Fourth. The puff balls came out of the candles faster than Luke and Mark could dodge them. The rockets went as far as they could and then kicked back a hissing, glowing stream of Fourth of July. The pinwheels kicked back only. The pinwheels ran hurdle races.

Mark and Luke? Well, they rubbed their legs and their hands and their faces. They jumped and howled, and were spats all over them, and their screams were a ride to hear.

Cousin Leonard heard the cries and the very unusual firing and ran to the rescue. It required his liveliest efforts to rank them out of their fort and extinguish the sparks in their clothing.

SNAPSHOTS AT NOTABLE PERSONS

Louis D. Brandeis, United States Supreme Court.



Photo by American Press Association

Louis D. Brandeis of Boston, who was recently appointed an associate justice of the United States supreme court, is the first Jew to receive that distinguished honor. He succeeds the late Associate Justice Joseph R. Lamar of Georgia. The nomination of Justice Brandeis was sent to the senate Jan. 28 and the first vote his confirmation was one of the bitterest in the senate's history.

Early in May President Wilson wrote to Senator Culberson of Texas, giving his reasons for nominating Mr. Brandeis. Among other things he said: "Let me say, by way of summing up, that I nominated Mr. Brandeis for the supreme court because it was and is my deliberate judgment that of all men now at the bar whom it has been my privilege to observe, test and know he is exceptionally qualified. This friend of justice and of men will ornament the high court of which we are all so justly proud. I am glad to have had the opportunity to say him this tribute of admiration and of confidence."

Justice Brandeis was born of Jewish parents in Louisville, Ky., in November, 1856. He was educated in the public schools and then spent a couple of years in Dresden. Returning to America, he worked his way through the Harvard law school and received his degree at the age of twenty. He was admitted to the bar in 1878 and began the practice of law in Boston, in which he has won both fame and wealth.

New Head of the Great Northern.

When James J. Hill, the great railroad builder and developer of the northwest died the direction of the vast Hill interests passed principally to his second son, Louis W. Hill. The younger Hill is just past forty-four, and he has been the head of the Great Northern railroad for fourteen years. A few weeks before his father's death the absolute control of the First Na-



LOUIS W. HILL.

tional bank of St. Paul also passed to the son. The elder Hill planned a great future for the bank and his policy will be carried out by his successor.

In a recent interview in St. Paul, Louis Hill said: "As long as railroads have good credit Wall Street will come out here to serve that credit. I do not propose to move to New York. I scarcely know my late father's intimate friends in the east. But I know all his friends, his lieutenants, out here and west and northwest of here who operate the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. As long as they are with me and back of me and beside me the Hill properties are safe and sure."

Louis is not the oldest son of James J. Hill. James N. Hill of New York is the first born. There never had been a close bond of sympathy in business affairs between the father and his eldest son.

STURDY WOODEN SHIPS.

Experience Shows They Will Outlast Those Built of Iron.

When iron and steel first came into use as materials for shipbuilding it was thought that a vessel so constructed would last forever or thereabouts, or at least that it would outlive any wooden craft, but experience covering more than 100 years shows the contrary. Metal ships are rather short lived, while many old hookers fashioned of oak and other native hardwoods on the north Atlantic coast in the first half of the last century are yet afloat and earning their way.

Since the little Philadelphia bark True Love, which was built in 1797, disappeared from the American registry the honors of maritime age have been worn by the little forty-five-ton schooner Polly, built at Amesbury, Mass., in 1805.

The Polly had a remarkable career as a coaster, having carried, as some one has figured it, enough lumber, bricks and lime from Bangor, Rockland, Calais and other Maine ports to Boston to build a good sized city of wooden houses.

There was an entertaining fiction of wide and persistent circulation to the effect that the Polly was a privateer in the war of 1812 and that got its picture and a highly romantic history into many publications. But the Polly was a ship of peace and never fought anything except the elements, which on this coast, especially in winter, provide enough excitement for any one.

Some years ago the Polly retired from lumber lugging, having been purchased by a man who had an idea of taking it to the San Francisco exposition by way of the Panama canal. That plan was abandoned, and it is hauled up somewhere in Massachusetts as a relic.—Boston Herald.

Two Sunsets Per Day.

There is one place in the world where the sun sets twice daily, and that is at Lock, in Staffordshire, England. The reason of this is that a jagged mountain is situated to the west of the town, and in the evening the sun sets behind it and darkness comes on. Then the first sunset occurs, the gas lamps are lit, and apparently night has set in. But it has not, for in the space of an hour or so the sun reappears again through the opening at the side of the mountain, and daylight again appears. Artificial lights are extinguished, and daylight prevails until the sun descends below the opening and the second sunset occurs and night comes to stay.

Colors of the Stars.

Although there is no relation apparently between the two phenomena, yet it is interesting to recall the fact that among the stars certain colors appear to characterize different stages of change, or evolution. Red stars, according to the testimony of the spectroscope, differ widely in their constitution from white or yellow ones, and it has been thought that varying colors may give a clew to progressive changes in the heavenly bodies. Sirius, for instance, is said to have changed from red to white, and some have suspected that Arcturus is fading from red toward yellow.

Cockfighting in England.

For centuries cockfighting was encouraged in English schools. Fitzstephen in the twelfth century mentions it as an amusement of Londoners and that yearly at Shrovetide the boys of every school brought cocks to their schoolmasters, and all the forenoon was spent in school witnessing these birds fight. As late as 1790 the income of the schoolmaster of Applecross, in Ross-shire, was drawn partially from cockfight dues. Down to 1815 at least there was an annual exhibition of cockfighting at the Manchester grammar school.

A Seaside Mayor.

The fishing fleets on the coast of Newfoundland elect on their return to land one of their number, to whom they give the title of "seaside mayor." His duty is to preside over and control all the business connected with the distribution and curing of the fish that have been caught, to hear all cases of dispute and to mete out punishment to offenders. This post is much coveted by the fishermen, as it carries with it absolute authority, and implicit obedience is rendered by all to the seaside mayor during his term of office.

With a Dull Thud.

A Chicago man was telling some vivid stories of the stockyards, and he mentioned an instance of a man's dropping sixty feet from the window of an abattoir without being in the least injured.

"What?" was the indignant protest of a hearer.

"Perhaps," said the narrator calmly, "I should add that they were pigs' feet."—New York Post.

A REMEMBRANCE FOR JULY 4.

July Fourth is a day of patriotic memories, and perhaps another reference to the war for independence may prove of some interest. On April 18, 1783, Washington issued his order announcing that hostilities had ceased. Here is the order:

"Headquarters, Newburg, April 18, 1783.

"The commander in chief orders the cessation of hostilities—between the United States of America and the King of Great Britain to be publicly read tomorrow at 12 o'clock at the new building, and the proclamation, which will be communicated herewith, to be read tomorrow evening at the head of every regiment and corps of the army, after which the chaplains with the several brigades will tender thanks to Almighty God for all his mercies, particularly for his averting the wrath of man to his own glory, and causing the rage of war to cease among the nations."

We can well pause even at this distant period and offer our thanksgiving to that same power for his mercies to us and for the singular manner in which he has preserved this government from ruin until now against the wrath of men, to his own glory and our advancement.

Following this order there was a great demonstration of joy among the soldiers, and even the gallant officers who but a few weeks before had been filled with such great discontent now joined with them in singing with exultation and jubilation that grand old anthem "Independence," then so popular, but long since forgotten and lost:

"The states, O Lord, with songs of praise
Shall in thy strength rejoice
And boast thy glorious name
To heaven their cheerful voices
And all the continent shall sing:
Down with this earthly king:
No king but God!"

Interesting as these incidents may be to all who would by a correct understanding of the past wisely improve the future, we can review them no further. The past is secure; the present and the future are our fields of opportunity and duty. Those who have gone before did well their part. Shall we be less brave and patriotic in the performance of our duty?

Mexico's Fourth.

Mexico has her liberty day, Sept. 15. On that day Hidalgo the priest proclaimed to his people their right of liberty and the pursuit of happiness. In the president's palace in Mexico there is hung a liberty bell. It originally hung in the tower of the high church where Hidalgo preached, and when he was threatened he rang it, both to warn those who were conspiring with him in the cause of liberty and as a token which was to proclaim Mexico's independence to the world. Each year on the night of Sept. 15 this bell is again rung.

