

AN EPISODE OF THE SOUTH

By JAMES BRAINARD

In antebellum days Edgar Forsythe, a young man from the north, and his sister, Edith, orphaned, settled in Louisiana.

Edgar Forsythe had recently been graduated from a law school, so he hung out his shingle as an attorney. His sister, who was an accomplished musician, taught music. Between the two they made a modest living.

One day Arnold La Fite, a man of the older Louisiana type, called upon Edgar Forsythe and employed him to collect a debt from Antoine De Four. The amount was \$25 and was of very long standing.

Now, De Four had taken a fancy to Edith Forsythe and was beginning to show his liking when her brother called upon him, stated that a note of his had been placed in his hands for collection and asked him when it would be convenient to pay it. De Four colored, looked hard at the note which Forsythe handed him and said that he would pay it the next day.

In those days dueling was a profession for all kinds of knavery. De Four was a fire-eater, and La Fite had hesitated to press him for payment for fear of offending him. De Four went to La Fite and asked him why he had insulted him by placing the note in the hands of a lawyer. La Fite apologized for doing so and said that he would withdraw the order for collection. Instead of doing so he took a steambath that passed early the next day for New Orleans, thus getting out of the fire-eater's way and leaving the lawyer to bear the brunt of De Four's displeasure.

The day after the first demand Edgar made a second one. This time De Four was very wrathful. He told Edgar that he had seen La Fite and the matter was between him and De Four and there was no occasion for a lawyer to meddle with it. Edgar told him that he had been employed to collect the money due on the note and if it was not paid by a certain date he would sue for it. De Four was very angry and replied that if Edgar sued he would have him again about the matter, he would consider it a personal insult.

One reason for De Four's displeasure was that this second demand was made in presence of several of De Four's friends. This was unfortunate, for it compelled him to make good his threat. The day after the suit had been entered De Four called on Edith Forsythe and stated to her the position in which she was placed and begged her to persuade her brother to withdraw the suit before it should be known, promising to settle the matter out of court as soon as this had been done.

When Edgar came home his sister said nothing about the visit of De Four, but urged him to attend to some law business that had been put into his hands requiring a visit to the county seat. He consented and left early the next morning. Soon after his departure Edith went word to De Four that her brother would not withdraw the suit.

De Four hoping to accomplish his threat which he had failed to effect by persuasion, followed a challenge to Edith in a note to his sister stating that his action gave him incontrovertible proof that his word had passed before witnesses and if he did not make good he would be considered henceforth as a poltroon.

De Four was surprised and annoyed to receive an acceptance of his challenge. It was reported to have been written by his sister. There was nothing for it now but to fight. De Four sent a friend to the Forsythe home to make arrangements for the meeting, and he was instructed to protest on the part of the challenger against it, stating that he had no other means of saving himself from being condemned by his friends and acquaintances as a coward.

The emissary was received by Edith, who, her brother being absent, said that as soon as she could communicate with him she would send a reply. Later in the day she wrote that she had heard from Edgar. He had chosen pistols at thirty paces, the time to be 3 o'clock the next morning, the place a certain open space near the bank of the Mississippi river.

De Four was surprised at the early hour, for at 3 o'clock it was barely dawn. He was very much disgruntled at the course the affair had taken, because he had been on the eve of proposing marriage to Edith Forsythe and now he was called upon to meet her brother in mortal combat.

He walked the floor till after 2 o'clock in the morning, when his second called for him and they proceeded to the ground. Shortly after reaching it a carriage drove up, and a young man alighted and handed out Edith Forsythe. Approaching De Four and his second, the young man said:

"Mr. De Four, you will be obliged to accept me for an antagonist this morning instead of Edgar Forsythe, who is away and knows nothing of your challenge. His sister, my fiancée, concealed it from him, intending to meet you in his place. She called on me to act as her second, but I insisted in taking the part of a principal. Is everything ready?"

De Four stood stock still for a moment, then turned without a word and walked away. Edith and her betrothed returned to her home and to breakfast. Later a messenger came from De Four with the money for the face of the note, interest and costs.

DOLLARS GIVE COURAGE.

To Be Penniless Makes a Man Feel Dependent and Cowardly.

There is this to be said about wealth. It gives courage to the owner. Poverty makes cowards of us all.

"The man who is suffering with fear," says a writer, "because he does not know where the next dollar is coming from is in no condition to earn or to attract dollars. Fear always makes a man think he is weak, a nobody. It always pictures the worst, sees no light ahead."

We hear a great deal these days about efficiency and about inefficiency. The fellow who has saved a few dollars and has them in the bank or where he can put his hand upon them is more efficient than the fellow who is penniless. Start out to find a job with never a dollar in your pocket. You'll have a hard time. You appear at a disadvantage when you approach a business man. You feel your dependence. You have a cowardly air about you, an inefficient air. You realize that you will have to accept anything that is offered. You are in no position to look the business man in the face and to demand your qualifications. Want is at your back, causing you to flinch.

But with money in your pockets you assume a different attitude. You realize that you are to that extent independent. You meet the business man more nearly upon an equal footing. You are more courageous, more self-assertive, more efficient. You know that you are not compelled to accept the first job offered you. You can discuss wages and conditions and conditions of employment if you are not "a job" so to speak. You have a bank account, to have something right in the beginning. -Rayton News.

PUFFBALLS ARE GOOD FOOD.

And of All the Edible Fungi They Are Called the Safest.

Puffballs are the safest of all fungi for the beginner, none of them being poisonous, and they are at the same time excellent and easy to obtain. writes William A. Merrill, assistant director of the New York Botanical Garden, in the August issue of the Journal of the American Museum of Natural History. Being tender, they cook quickly and are easily digested. They should as a rule be cut open before cooking to see that they are not too old and that they are really puffballs. If they are white and firm like cream cheese inside, showing no yellow or brownish discoloration, they are of the right age to use. If the interior shows no special structures, but is smooth and homogeneous, then one may be sure he has a puffball.

The "egg" of the deadly amanita contains the young cap and stem inside which are readily seen when the "egg" is cut, and the "egg" of the stinkhorn shows the stem and a green mass inside, surrounded by a layer of jelly-like substance.

Puffballs may be cooked alone in various ways or used in stews and omelets and for stuffing for fowls. When used in omelets they should be stewed first. All kinds except the very small one should first be peeled and cut into slices or cubes, after which they may be fried quickly in butter or dipped in beaten egg and fried like eggsplant or cooked in any of the ways recommended for the ordinary mushroom. The smaller kinds are much in favor in flavor to the larger ones and need a few specimens of some good mushroom to make them attractive.

A Lost Fortune. The first girl baby born in Denver was the daughter of a settler named Harvey and she was born in 1849 and thereafter in recognition of her enterprise in being born in the camp with the spirit of an entrepreneur.

Seasickness. The old-fashioned notion that a good dose of sickness was beneficial was due wholly to the fact that upon recovery the victim of mal de mer is usually so debilitated that he is apt to imagine that he never felt better in his life, while feeling normal again is merely so great a contrast to the exceedingly wretched condition which this disorder brings about that exaggeration of one's feelings is the most natural thing in the world. Seasickness is far from pleasant. It is not beneficial, and in rare cases it terminates fatally.

Round Shoulders. An excellent exercise to straighten round shoulders—good for girls or women who have to sit a good deal—is performed by placing a thin stick or wand across the back and letting it run out through the bent elbows. The arms are bent so that the hands rest on the chest. Keep the arms and shoulders pressed back and down and walk about the room in this way for five or ten minutes. -Chicago News.

Moisture and Temperature. A cubic foot of air at the temperature of zero (F) can contain only .5 of a grain of water vapor, at 32 degrees it can hold 2.13 grains, at 65 it can contain 6.8 grains and at 98 it can hold 18.96 grains of moisture in suspension. These figures go to show that summer air can hold at least nine times the quantity of dampness that air can when reduced to the temperature of freezing.

Longer Than Expected. Vandeventer—So at your request he spoke at your dinner? Broadway—He did.

"And did he come up to your expectations?" "Why, he went an hour beyond it." -St. Louis Post Dispatch.

One of Life's Tragedies. Among the tragedies of life is the good wife who has just observed her twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, but is still holding fast a set of silver spoons. -Washington Post.

To enjoy true happiness is impossible while those about us are unhappy.

Legislative Bodies.

Any legislative body may be called a congress or parliament, but different countries have different names and some of distinctive meaning. France has a national assembly with two houses called senate and chamber of deputies; Germany has an upper and lower house, bundestag and reichstag; Belgium has a senate and chamber of representatives; Spain has a cortes and two houses, senate and congress; Denmark, two houses, senate and congress; Italy has a parliament with senate and chamber of deputies, or chamber of deputies. Prussia has a landing composed of two chambers called the reichstag, or house of lords, and the abgeordnetenhaus, or house of deputies. Sixteen of us, with a first chamber and second chamber. All the South American republics, being fastened on the government of the United States, have a congress composed of two houses, senate and chamber of deputies.

The Wireless Wave. In articles on wireless telegraphy expressions are used which have not their proper meaning. Sixteen of us, in reply to a correspondent who asks how the length of the waves is measured, the Scientific American gives the following simple explanation:

"The length of an electrical wave is determined by a wave meter. The natural wave length of an aerial is four times its linear length just as the wave length of a note of a closed organ pipe is four times the length of the pipe, and the wave length of the note of a tuning fork is four times the length of the fork which is resonant with the note. However, other conditions make it difficult to measure the wave length by a rule and the wave meter gives a more correct result than can be found by measuring the length of the wire.

Indian Rock. Indian rock, in Laramie park, Philadelphia, the landmark along the Wissahickon is so called because of the figure of Todd sitting upon it. Todd, a young man, was long of the Delaware and a powerful chief in the Six Nations. The rock on which this statue stands was long known as the "Council Rock" and there the last council of the League tribe was held in 1763, before their departure for the Wyoming reservation. According to the legend, Todd, sitting on his last look over the Wissahickon, came from this rock. A wooden figure of an Indian was placed on the rock in 1854. This monument was replaced in 1903 by the present figure, the gift of Charles F. Henry of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia Press.

Nature's Only Timepiece. There is a need for clocks on the Aegean sea, one day when the sun is shining. This nature has arranged her own timepiece, one that does not vary through the centuries past. This natural time to order is the largest sundial in the world. Projecting into the blue waters of the sea is a large promontory, which rises its head 3,000 feet above the waves. As the sun swings round the pointed shadow of the mountain just touches one after the other a number of small islands, which are at exact distances apart and act as hour marks on the great dial. -New York Tribune.

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MOTORCAR ECONOMY.

How to Make a Gallon of Gasoline Go Further Than It Does.

In the first place, use care in the selection of fuel. Gasoline which does not vaporize with sufficient readiness to remain in a gaseous state eventually condenses in the cylinders and is either burned or lost without developing its power. Furthermore, the gasoline must be pure, with a minimum amount of residue which will serve to form carbon.

Secondly, the gasoline must be burned under the most favorable conditions conducive to a development of maximum power following each explosion. Such conditions require tight piston rings and valves, which prevent the leakage of compression or the power of the explosion; a uniform and quickly attained engine temperature, a hot, fat spark occurring as early as is possible without producing a knock, and a sufficiently flexible carburetor which will give proper mixtures at all engine speeds. The above mentioned maintenance of engine temperature is an important consideration, especially in cold weather.

Thirdly, the carbon should be removed from the engine as soon as an undue accumulation is indicated, usually every 500 to 1,000 miles, depending upon the kind of oil used, the condition of the rings, the nature of the fuel, and the like.

In the fourth place, the mixture should be set to as lean a point as will run the motor under normal conditions when the engine is warmed to its average temperature. Nearly every carburetor will permit the needle valve to be screwed down one or more notches. In fact, it is well to set the carburetor to so lean a mixture that the engine will not pull properly before it is thoroughly heated. The difficulty thus encountered may be overcome by the use of the choke or other adjustments of the carburetor which serve to give a richer mixture when starting. A lean mixture may be further assured by the use of some of the well tried oil treatments designed to furnish auxiliary air to the engine under certain conditions.

Fifth, the carburetor should be inspected by an expert and the steamer drained frequently to prevent the accumulation of dirt which may lodge under the float valve and cause the latter to leak when the engine is shut down.

Sixth, the engine should never be left running while the car is standing idle. If adjustments are properly made, the engine will start easily, and the current from your starting battery is cheaper than gasoline. Furthermore, the engine should not be raced at random for testing purposes unless you have a definite idea as to just where the trouble lies.

Seventh, all brakes should be kept so that they do not drag, bearings should be well oiled, tires inflated to the pressure recommended by the manufacturer and the whole car so free in its motion that it can be pushed by hand without difficulty on a hard level pavement. -H. W. Simpson in Leslie's.

Dynamite Whiskers. The name "whiskers" is applied to feathery crystals which gather upon the outside of the wrappings of frozen dynamite. The "whiskers" are more "irritable" than dynamite itself. A case is on record where sticks of dynamite had been thrown out in hot water and the can of hot water in which it was done left in the blacksmith shop with the inside being emptied of the residual cum of grease and whiskers. The first blow of the blacksmith's hammer on a nail by which was sufficient to set off the "whiskers" by concussion. The can was blown to pieces, but fortunately no one was hurt.

Waste From Small Leaks. The importance of mending the tiniest leak in a water pipe is shown in a circular issued by a small city in which water meters are used. This, as quoted by Popular Mechanics, states that under a pressure of forty pounds in twenty-four hours 170 gallons of water will pass through a hole a shade larger than the period at the end of this sentence. An orifice the size of a fairly large pinhead will permit 3,000 gallons to escape in the same time.

Sap of a Tree. Sap is pumped up through its wood in a tree and will even go through dead wood, but will not return by the same medium. Therefore a tree may live until the roots starve. Sap ascends on the inside and descends on the outside. Therefore the descending sap alone builds new tissue of wood and bark.

Three Legs of a Stool. Andrew Carnegie was once asked which he considered to be the most important factor in industry—labor, capital or brains? The canny Scot replied, with a merry twinkle in his eye, "Which is the most important leg on a three legged stool?" -Christian Register.

Well Defined. "Dad," said little Reginald, "what is a bucket shop?" "A bucket shop, my son," said the father feelingly—"a bucket shop is a modern co-operation establishment to which a man takes a barrel and brings back the bung-hole." -Puck.

An Egotist. Tommy's Pop, what is an egotist? Tommy's Pop—An egotist, my son, is a man who thinks he can form an impartial opinion of himself. -Philadelphia Record.

Beware of the man who offers you advice at the expense of a mutual friend.

C&B DAILY BETWEEN BUFFALO & CLEVELAND
3 - MAGNIFICENT STEAMERS - 3
The Great Ship "SEABREE" - CITY OF ERIE - CITY OF BUFFALO
BUFFALO - Daily, May 1st to Nov. 15th - CLEVELAND
Leave Buffalo - 8:30 P. M. Arrive Cleveland - 8:30 P. M.
Leave Cleveland - 7:30 A. M. Arrive Buffalo - 7:30 A. M.
Compositions at Cleveland for Cedar Point, Put-in-Bay, Toledo, Detroit and all points
West and Southwest. Railroad tickets reading between Buffalo and Cleveland
are good for transportation on our steamers. Ask your ticket agent for
tickets via C. & B. Lines, New York, Atlantic and Gulf.
With 5 days return limit, fares not exceeding 17 in wheelbase.
Beautifully colored regional picture charts of The Great Ship "SEABREE" sent on
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Much Too Much. We eat too much. We heat too much. We try too much to heat too much. We grow too much. We sow too much. We play the midnight owl too much.

We gape too much. We gape too much and daily with red tape too much. We treat too much and cheat too much and fear to face defeat too much.

We buy too much. We lie too much and shovel and deny too much. We have too much and slave too much, with one foot in the grave too much.

We sit too much. We spit too much, wear shoes too tight to fit too much. We mess too much and dress too much in sixteen suits or less too much.

We spite too much. We fight too much and seek the great white light too much. We read too much. We speed too much, hit-dope and use the weed too much. We drink too much. We drink too much. I think we even think too much. -Oscar Schelf in Health Culture.

Scraping a Bat. Baseball players are as superstitious as Zeus. In no way is this more lucidly illustrated than in the care which some of them lavish upon an ordinary baseball bat. Manufacturers, says the Popular Science Monthly, oil and shell their bats to make them sleek and fresh, and the superstitious baseball player proceeds to use glass, bone, sandpaper and what not to remove the finish. Why? Oh, "just because" to give a woman's reason. He may have a notion that the bat will last longer without it. But the truth is that the shellac really acts as a preservative of the wood.

Some baseball players imagine that it is impossible to make a strong hit with a new bat, because the bat is so sleek that the ball glances off it. Others believe that scraping a bat fills up the crevices and cracks and thus lengthens the life of the bat.

Bushels in New York. According to New York law, the bushel shall consist of seventy pounds of time or coarse salt, sixty pounds of wheat, peas, potatoes, clover seed or beans, fifty-seven pounds of onions, fifty-six pounds of Indian corn, rye or fine salt, fifty-five pounds of flaxseed, fifty-four pounds of sweet potatoes, fifty pounds of cornmeal, rye meal or carrots; forty-eight pounds of barley or buckwheat, forty-five pounds of herdsgrass, timothy seed or rough rice; forty-four pounds of sea island cotton seed, thirty-three pounds of dried peaches; thirty-two pounds of oats; twenty-five pounds of upland cotton seed; twenty-five pounds of dried apples; twenty pounds of bran or shorts. For a fractional part of the bushel a like fractional part of the above weights shall be required.

Order of the Thistle. The Order of the Thistle is a Scotch order of ancient origin. Tradition has it that it was established A. D. 787 as the result of a vision of a bright cross seen in the heavens by Achaillus, king of the Scots and Hungus, king of the Picts, while they were engaged in prayer on the night before the battle with Athelstan, king of England. So far as the records show, however, it was either re-established or founded in 1087 by James II of England by the appointment of eight knights.

The order collapsed, but was revived by Queen Anne on Dec. 31, 1703. In 1827 it was decreed that the membership should consist of the sovereign and sixteen knights, but others of the royal family were admitted.

Two Views of the Case. A prospective bridegroom made his first call on his future bride in company with a marriage broker, and while in the parlor waiting for the appearance of the family the broker drew the young man's attention to a glass chest containing a handsome silver set. "Just look at these things," he said. "You can see how wealthy these people are."

"But is it not possible that these articles were borrowed for the occasion," inquired the suspicious young man, "so as to give an appearance of wealth?" "What an idea!" answered the agent reprovingly. "Who in the world would lend them anything?"

Always in the Lead. The Morning Star announced the death of William B. Jones when he was not dead, writes Simeon Strunsky in the New York Evening Post. The next day it printed the following notice:

Hurt His Professional Pride. "I can't graft trees no longer for \$3 a day," asserted the reformed crook who had applied for something to do on the farm. "Three dollars a day is fair pay for working."

The Haunted House. Would he be tenant—I like, the house very much, but I hear that it is haunted. Landlord (rubbing his hands and smiling)—My dear madam, I attend to that personally. The ghosts only appear to tenants who do not pay their rent and refuse to move out. -London Telegraph.

Solomon's Orchestra. It is asserted by some music historians that the greatest orchestra the world has ever known was supported by Solomon in his temple. According to Josephus, there were 20,000 harps and psalteries of solid copper and 20,000 trumpets of silver.

Close. She—I suppose you saw some close things at the front? He—Rather! There was McDougall of our battalion. -I think he was the closest. -London Ideas.

Subject For Pity. Belle—She says her face is her fortune. Beulah—Well, I pity the person she wills it to. -Yonkers Statesman.

Enjoy present pleasures in such a way as not to injure future ones. -Seneca.

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