



THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
NEWSBOY



Horatio Alger, Jr.

1832 - 1899

A magazine devoted to the study of Horatio Alger, Jr., his life, works, and influence on the culture of America.

VOLUME XXXVIII

JULY-AUGUST 2000

NUMBER 4

The A. L. Burt
Boys' Home Library

-- See Page 3

Volume I. No. 1. PRICE, 25 CENTS. \$2.50 Yearly. September, 1887.

BOYS' HOME LIBRARY.

JOE'S LUCK.
A BOY'S ADVENTURES IN CALIFORNIA
By Horatio Alger Jr.

A. L. BURT, Publisher, New York.
PUBLISHED MONTHLY. Entered at the New York Post Office as second class matter.



*Malcolm the Waterboy,
or A Mystery of Old London*

-- See Page 13

President's column

While summer has been slipping by, some members of the Alger Society have been quite busy, indeed. Doug Fleming continues to fine-tune the details so that our next convention in Ottawa will be a smooth and delightful event. (I believe he will have an quick update in the next issue of *Newsboy*.)

Sam Huang, who, as you know, has retired from Northern Illinois University, has taken up a five-year tenured position as Assistant Dean for External Relations for the University of Arizona Libraries. Sam was in transit during our May convention, spent time this summer looking for a house, and Corinna and he moved into a home at the end of July with a great mountain view, a pool, and a good supply of green grass rare for those parts. Sam is raising funds for the University of Arizona Libraries and has already had a good deal of success; a major project for which he is raising money is a new electronic library extension. While he now has to drive 25 minutes to work instead of having the nice walk he had at NIU, he is enjoying the new setting and the work. His new address can be found in this issue of *Newsboy*. Sam plans to be with us in Ottawa, and I look forward to working with him on the Board of Directors.

Art Young tells me that NIU has offered TWO Alger fellowships from the group of applicants who sought funding to work at the H.A.S. Repository this year. Watch for Art's report on the recipients and their research projects in a future issue of *Newsboy*.

Finally, I have it on good authority that one other H.A.S. busy bee has netted quite a prize. The first known copy of *The New Schoolma'am* in private hands was acquired on eBay by one of our members at a price far too rich for my blood! Congratulations. I suspect we'll all be hearing more about it in the weeks and months to come.

I want to bring a very interesting recent article to the attention of H.A.S. members. In the July 24th issue of *The New Yorker*, Nicholas Baker's "Deadline" examines the fate of illustrated weeklies (e.g., *Leslie's Illustrated Weekly*), color comic strips, political cartoons and newspapers more generally as public libraries engage in "stock control." Baker has grown so concerned about the disappearance of original newsprint from repositories that he arranged to purchase a small warehouse full of titles from the British Library when it divested. Space considerations, far more than deteriorating newsprint, are to blame for the loss of these wonderful resource materials,

(Continued on Page 4)

HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

To further the philosophy of Horatio Alger, Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive and Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes — lads whose struggles epitomized the great American dream and flamed hero ideals in countless millions of young Americans.

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Newsboy, the official newsletter of the Horatio Alger Society, is published bi-monthly (six issues per year). Membership fee for any 12-month period is \$25, with single issues of *Newsboy* costing \$4.00. Please make all remittance payable to the Horatio Alger Society.

Membership applications, renewals, changes of address and other correspondence should be sent to **Horatio Alger Society, P.O. Box 70361, Richmond, VA 23255**.

Newsboy is indexed in the Modern Language Association's International Bibliography.

BOOKS RECOMMENDED BY H.A.S.

- Horatio Alger, Jr., A Comprehensive Bibliography*, by Bob Bennett (PF-265); republished by MAD Book Co., 1999
- Horatio Alger or, The American Hero Era*, by Ralph D. Gardner (PF-053).
- The Fictional Republic: Horatio Alger and American Political Discourse*, by Carol Nackenoff (PF-921).
- Publication Formats of the 59 Stories by Horatio Alger, Jr. as Reprinted by the John C. Winston Co.*, by Bob Sawyer (PF-455) and Jim Thorp (PF-574).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by A.L. Burt*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by M.A. Donohue & Co.*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by Whitman Publishing Co.*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- Horatio Alger Books Published by The New York Book Co.*, by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- The Lost Life of Horatio Alger, Jr.*, by Gary Scharnhorst with Jack Bales (PF-258).

Newsboy ad rates: Full page, \$32.00; one-half page, \$17.00; one-quarter page, \$9.00; per column inch (1 inch deep by approx. 3 1/2 inches wide), \$2.00. Send ads, with check payable to Horatio Alger Society, P.O. Box 70361, Richmond, VA 23255.

The above rates apply to all want ads, along with ads offering non-Alger books for sale. However, it is the policy of the Horatio Alger Society to promote the exchange of Alger books and related Alger materials by providing space **free of charge** to our members for the **sale only** of such material. Send ads or "Letters to the Editor" to *Newsboy* editor William R. Gowen (PF-706) at 23726 N. Overhill Dr., Lake Zurich, IL 60047.

The A. L. Burt Boys' Home Library

By Robert E. Kasper (PF-327)

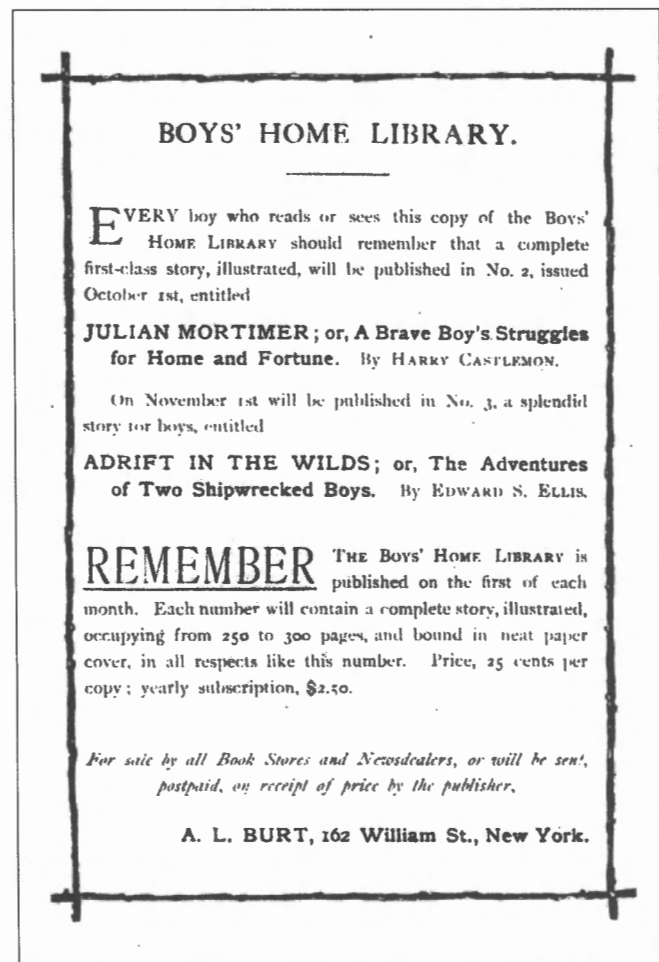
Five of the seven Horatio Alger, Jr. stories published by A. L. Burt in 1887 and 1888 in paper wraps as part of its *Boys' Home Library Series* are considered first editions. At least this is what Alger's major bibliographers have concluded. The first hard-cover editions, more commonly known as "Fez editions," came later and are considered by many knowledgeable collectors to be reprints. However, preliminary research indicates that this may not be the case. This article will describe in detail each of the five paperbacks and all known variants. A future article will examine A. L. Burt's first hard-cover editions of these titles and attempt to ascertain their first appearance.

The publishing firm of A. L. Burt was formed in 1883 in New York and entered the juvenile field in September 1887 with the introduction of the *Boys' Home Library Series*.¹ This series consisted of 24 volumes by leading juvenile authors of the time including seven titles by Horatio Alger, Jr., three each by Edward S. Ellis, Harry Prentice and James Otis, two each by Harry Castlemon and William P. Chipman, and one each by Randolph Hill, James Franklin Fitts, Alfred R. Calhoun and Frank H. Converse.

The five acknowledged first editions by Horatio Alger are *Joe's Luck* (Number 1), *Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy* (Number 4), *Tom Temple's Career* (Number 7), *Tom Thatcher's Fortune* (Number 11) and *The Errand Boy* (Number 14). The sixth and seventh Alger titles – *Tom the Bootblack* (Number 19) and *Tony the Hero* (Number 23) – are reprints, having been published years earlier by J. S. Ogilvie in 1880 in hard cover editions. All of the Alger stories were originally serialized in the *New York Weekly*.

The series commenced in September 1887 and ended nearly three years later, in June 1890, with the issuance of Number 24 titled *Captured by Zulus* by Harry Prentice. The first 19 numbers were published on a monthly basis and the remaining five numbers were issued quarterly. It would appear that Burt's interest in publishing subscription books may have been waning toward the end of the series or perhaps it was concentrating on printing the higher priced cloth bound editions.

The 24 numbers are uniformly bound in cream colored paper wraps with red and black printing. The pictorial cover design includes a hunting scene, a sailing scene and Burt's ubiquitous fez-adorned youngster. The volume, number, price and date found at the top of the front cover appear in red on two lines for the first year or so. Starting with Number 10 (or possibly Number 9), this



Ex. 1: The rear cover of the first printing of *Joe's Luck* (the front cover is shown on Page 1 of this issue).

information appears on one line. The annual subscription price, initially \$2.50, is increased to \$3.00 for Numbers 10, 11 and 12 and possibly 13. Perhaps a decline in sales motivated Burt to reduce the yearly price back to \$2.50 starting with *The Errand Boy* (Number 14) and finally to \$1.00 when the series began quarterly publication.

The first printing of *Joe's Luck* will show in the advertisements on the rear cover Numbers 2 and 3 as being available on October 1 and November 1, respectively (see Example 1, above). The Burt address will be 162 William Street. Three months later, in December 1887, Burt published *Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy* as Number 4. The advertisements on the rear cover will show the first four numbers as being in print with Numbers 5 and 6 projected for January 1 and February 1, respectively (see *Continued on Page 5*)

Editor's notebook

As another summer winds down (and I hope your vacation book-hunting trips were a success!) we now turn to football season — and the realization that another convention is just a little more than eight months away. Our host, Doug Fleming, has his plans for Ottawa 2001 well under way, and he'll have updates coming up in future issues, with the main Convention Preview set for the January-February, 2001 *Newsboy*.

This issue contains, starting on Page 19, the revised Horatio Alger Society Constitution and By-laws, the result of more than two years' work by Brad Chase (PF-412). The enclosed postal card is your ratification ballot; please mark it and mail it as soon as possible.

We also have three especially interesting articles: Leading off on Page 3 is the first comprehensive look at the A.L. Burt paperback *Algers in Burt's Boys' Home Library*, as described by Robert E. Kasper (PF-327).

Then, on Page 11, Angelo Sylvester (PF-928), our convention host in 1997 and 1998, offers his personal views on his favorite author in "Why I Read Alger."

On Page 13, one of the most elusive of the Edward Stratemeyer books (although he was the editor/rewriter in this case), *Malcolm the Waterboy*, is discussed in detail by Stratemeyer scholar John T. Dizer (PF-511).

We've also included several more photos from the 2000 H.A.S. convention, "In a New World in West Chester."

* * *

We now continue our ongoing survey of prominent publishers of boys' and girls' books and the methods they used (if any) for identifying first editions. As mentioned previously, many of the more prominent publishers of adult fiction and non-fiction also produced juveniles, utilizing the various methods of identifying first editions discussed in this space the past three issues; or, they may have used their own proprietary code systems of identification. The previous installment ended with Lee & Shepard/Lothrop, Lee & Shepard.

As we have done throughout this project, sources of information were *A Pocket Guide to the Identification of First Editions*, compiled by Bill McBride (self-published, Hartford, Ct., 1995); *First Editions: A Guide to Identification*, third edition, edited by Edward N. Zempel and Linda A. Verkler (Peoria, Ill.: The Spoon River Press, 1995); and *How to Identify and Collect American First Editions*, by Jack Tannen (New York: Arco Publishing Co., 1976). Additional information was obtained by examining the books themselves.

President's column

(Continued from Page 2)

Baker thinks. Microfilming is sometimes incomplete and often fades; it is also a black and white medium. So many libraries own only the New York Public Library's film edition of the *New York Sun*, for instance — a paper in which Alger published — and there appears to be a six-month gap in the filming for 1862.

Once the microfilms are made, the originals are often dumped (or sold to businesses that cannibalize copies, selling "headlines from the day you were born" or for special historic dates). No extant copy of the missing issues of the *New York Sun* was found. While specialty dealers occasionally get a chance to bid on such discarded materials, individuals rarely do.

According to Baker, the Library of Congress has been divesting of print for several decades; 67,000 volumes of bound post-1870 wood pulp at the Library of Congress in 1950 have dwindled to only a few thousand volumes now. If anyone wants to see this article and has trouble finding a copy, which runs from pages 42 to 61, let me know. I would enjoy hearing about the experiences of any H.A.S. members who may have been able to acquire any of these discarded volumes, and what treasures they may have found contained therein — and likewise from anyone whose research has been made more difficult by such divestitures. Send a letter to *Newsboy*.

Since I'm on sabbatical, I don't read my e-mail quite as often as usual, but I do enjoy hearing from my friends in H.A.S. Stay in touch and send news!

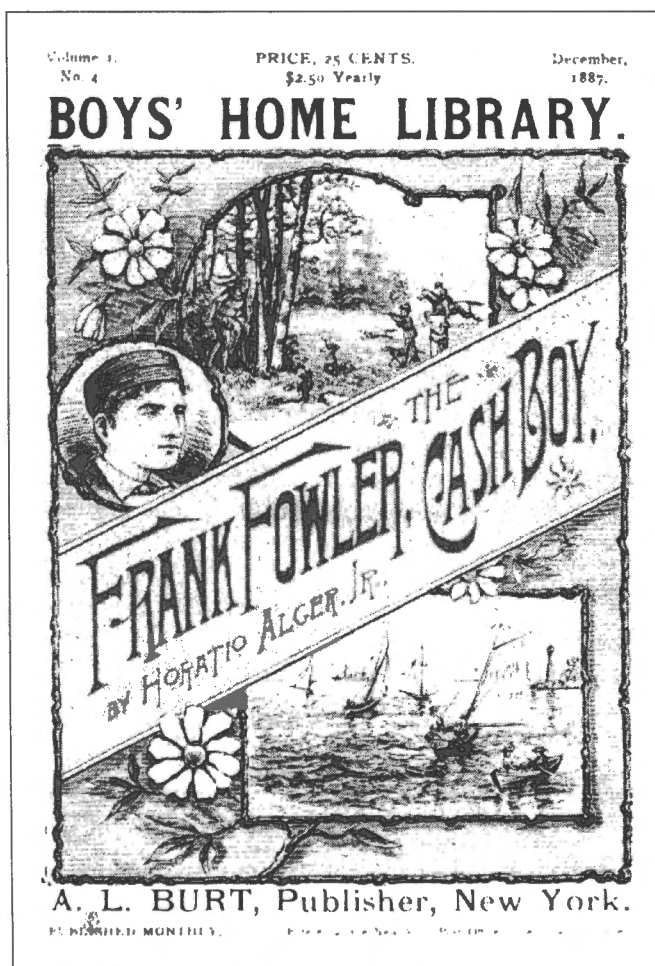
Your Partic'lar Friend,
Carol Nackenoff (PF-921)
302 S. Chester Road
Swarthmore, PA 19081
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Little, Brown and Company, Boston

This is one of the best of the so-called mainline publishers to have delved into juveniles, offering a dozen or so very collectible series by familiar and not-so-familiar authors. In addition to being highly collectible, these are among the most attractively bound, best-written children's books, especially those by Owen Johnson, Mary P. Wells Smith and Leslie W. Quirk.

Little, Brown and Company still exists today. It is now part of the Time-Warner media empire, which recently was acquired by America Online. In fact, there is a division within Little, Brown known as Little Brown Books for Children, so the company does take its heritage seriously.

Usual identification method: In the era of series
(Continued on Page 18)



BOYS' HOME LIBRARY.

IT is the purpose of the publisher to issue monthly, in the **BOYS' HOME LIBRARY**, a story for boys, full of exciting and adventurous interest, that shall be of a healthy and sound moral tone, inculcating incidentally the religion of manliness and honesty, thereby inciting to whatsoever things are pure, noble, honorable, and of good report.

These will be decidedly *safe* books to be placed in a boy's hands; and parents realizing this should provide the **BOYS' HOME LIBRARY** for their children without hesitation.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE TITLES OF THE FIRST NUMBERS:

1. **JOE'S LUCK; or, A Boy's Adventures in California.** By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
2. **JULIAN MORTIMER; or, A Brave Boy's Struggles for Home and Fortune.** By HARRY CASTLEMON.
3. **ADRIFF IN THE WILDS; or, The Adventures of Two Shipwrecked Boys.** By EDWARD S. ELLIS.
4. **FRANK FOWLER, THE CASH BOY.** By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
5. **GUY HARRIS, THE RUNAWAY.** By HARRY CASTLEMON. [Ready January 1.]
6. **BEN BURTON, THE SLATE PICKER.** By HARRY PRENTICE. [Ready February 1.]

REMEMBER THE **BOYS' HOME LIBRARY** is published on the first of each month. Each number will contain a complete story, illustrated, occupying from 250 to 300 pages, and bound in neat paper cover, in all respects like this number. Price, 25 cents per copy; yearly subscription, \$2.50.

For sale at all Book Stores and Newsdealers, or will be sent postpaid, on receipt of price by the publisher.

A. L. BURT, 162 William St., New York.

Ex. 2: The front and rear covers of the first printing of *Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy*, with the advertisement showing titles Nos. 5 and 6 scheduled to appear Jan. 1, 1888 and Feb. 1, 1888, respectively.

The A. L. Burt Boys' Home Library

(Continued from Page 3)

Example 2). The address will be 162 William Street.

At this point, it may be judicious to mention that although Burt publications were liberal with advertisements, dates and addresses, they were hardly uniform. As a general rule, most titles will advertise to itself and ensuing titles will be projected. A notable exception is the first printing of *Tom Thatcher's Fortune* (Number 11), which list the first 10 titles in print with Numbers 11, 12 and 13 projected. This is the same advertisement that appeared in the preceding number (*Captain Kidd's Gold* by Fitts). Another exception is the reprint issue of *Tom the Bootblack* (Number 19) published in March 1889. I have seen a copy with 19 numbers listed with no projected titles and another copy with 17 titles with the last three being projected. In a few other cases, the internal advertisements do not match the external listing.

One interesting advertising anomaly appears in the NIU Library copy of *Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy*. The rear

cover contains all of the first issue points (as described above) including the 162 William Street address. However, the advertisements on the inside front cover list 17 numbers (the last three numbers are projected) and Burt's 56 Beekman Street address. The inside front cover is normally blank for this series. Since the outside wrapper is made up of a single sheet, one might assume that information contained therein would have been printed at the same time. However, the aforementioned variant negates this theory and proves that left over wrappers were reused and occasionally updated with new information.

The next Alger title to appear in the **Boys' Home Library** was *Tom Temple's Career* (Number 7) in March 1888 (see Example 3). The first issue will list the first seven numbers as being in print with Numbers 8, 9 and 10 projected. The Burt address is 162 William Street and this is the final Alger title to carry that address. Two months later, in May 1888, Burt moved its operations to 56 Beekman Street. In July 1888, Burt issued *Tom*

(Continued on Page 6)

The A. L. Burt Boys' Home Library

(Continued from Page 5)

Thatcher's Fortune as Number 11 in the series. As previously mentioned, the first issue will list 13 titles with Numbers 11 through 13 projected (see Example 4). This is the first Alger title to carry Burt's Beekman Street address.

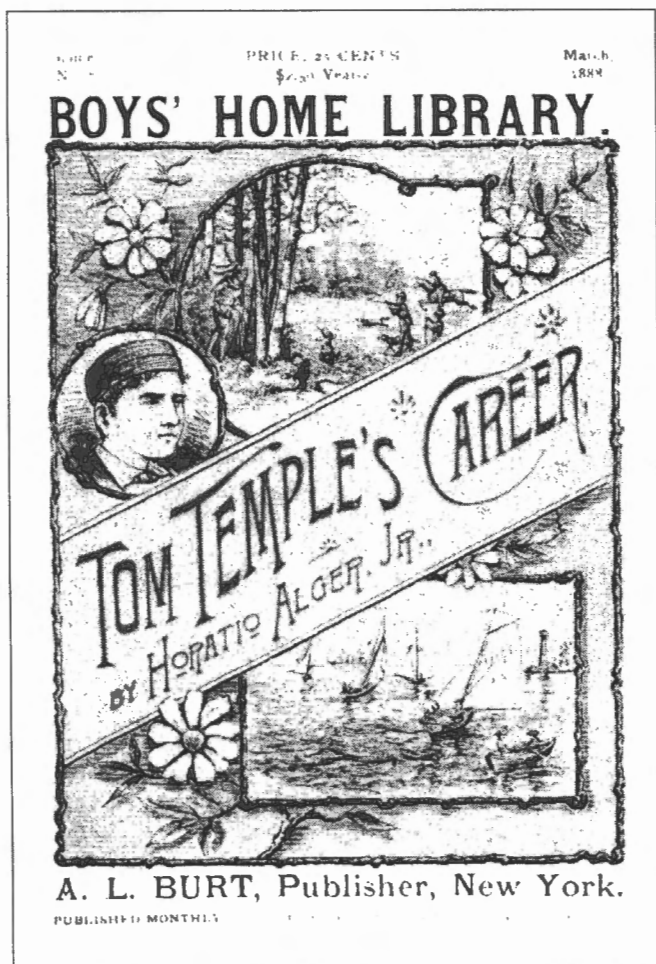
The final Alger "first edition" issued in this series is *The Errand Boy* (Number 14) published in October 1888. The first issue will list the first 14 numbers in print with Numbers 15 through 17 projected (see Example 5). The correct Burt address will be 56 Beekman Street.

It has been suggested by Brad Chase (PF-412), leading Burt researcher and author of *Horatio Alger Books published by A. L. Burt*, that two (or more) titles were printed simultaneously since several volumes, and their immediate successors, list the same number of titles. For example, Numbers 4 and 5 both list six titles, Numbers 7 and 8 list 10 titles, Numbers 10, 11 and 12 list 13 titles, etc. Although certainly not conclusive, it would appear

that any given print run included at least two titles with the second title held back from distribution until the following month.

Several variant issues are known to exist including editions with blank rear covers, front covers void of any pictorial scenes and one odd hybrid which contains a Perry Mason & Company imprint.

The Perry Mason & Company edition was first mentioned by Denis R. Rogers in two articles published in *Dime Novel Round-Up*.² In these articles, Rogers describes a copy of *Adrift in the Wilds* (Number 3) by Edward S. Ellis containing the imprint of Perry Mason & Company, 41 Temple Place, Boston, at the bottom of the rear cover with no mention of A. L. Burt anywhere on the outside wrapper. At the top of the front cover appears **Boys' Library of Adventure and Romance** in place of **Boys' Home Library** and at the bottom appears "By Famous Authors" instead of "A. L. Burt, Publisher, New York." The rear cover lists the first 14 titles of the series (unnumbered) for sale at 30 cents per copy. The book retained the Burt title page and listed the 162 William



BOYS' HOME LIBRARY.

THE **BOYS' HOME LIBRARY** is a great success; it is the first attempt to give thoroughly good literature for boys at a price which hitherto has been confined to the worst sensational trash.

It is almost superfluous to say anything in praise of stories written by Horatio Alger, Harry Castleman, Edward S. Ellis, James Otis, and others who have contributed to the **BOYS' HOME LIBRARY**. Their names are a passport, as every youngster knows, to hours of the keenest delight and enjoyment in scenes of stirring life and adventure. These stories are so well understood and so easily read that they are full of excitement, yet not devoid of sense or skill; interesting, intelligible, manly, and, as to what ever is good.

It is the design of the publisher of the **BOYS' HOME LIBRARY** to supply stories of the highest grade, by popular writers, at a low price. A more judicious selection of spirited stories for boys it would be hard to find than the following list, and parents realizing this should provide this **LIBRARY** for their children without hesitation.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE TITLES:

1. **JOE'S LUCK**: or, A Boy's Adventures in California. By H. S. ALGER, Jr.
2. **JULIAN MORTIMER**: or, A Brave Boy's Struggles for Home and Fortune. By HARRY CASTLEMAN.
3. **ADRIFF IN THE WILDS**: or, The Adventures of Two Shipwrecked Boys. By EDWARD S. ELLIS.
4. **FRANK FOWLER, THE CASH BOY**. By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
5. **GUY HARRIS, THE RUNAWAY**. By HARRY CASTLEMAN.
6. **BEN BURTON, THE SLATE PICKER**. By HARRY CASTLEMAN.
7. **TOM TEMPLE'S CAREER**. By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
8. **TOM, THE READY**. By RANDOLPH HILL. (Ready April 1.)
9. **THE CASTAWAYS**. By JAMES OTIS. (Ready May 1.)
10. **CAPTAIN KIDD'S TREASURE**. The True Story of an Adventurous Sailor Boy. By JAMES LEAGUE FIFE. (Ready June 1.)

The above stories are printed on extra paper, and bound in handsome cloth binding, at \$1.00 per copy. They may be had of bookellers or the Publisher.

REMEMBER The **BOYS' HOME LIBRARY** is published on the first of each month. Each number will contain a complete story, illustrated, occupying from 200 to 250 pages, and bound in neat paper cover. Price, 25 cents per copy; yearly subscription, \$1.00.

We Desire to Have Your Subscription.

For sale at all Book Stores and Newsdealers, or will be sent, postpaid, on receipt of price, by the publisher,

A. L. BURT, 162 William St., New York.

Ex. 3: The front and rear covers of the first printing of *Tom Temple's Career*, with the advertisement showing the first seven titles in print and Nos. 8-10 projected. This is the last title with the 162 William Street address.

Street address in the internal advertisements at the rear of the book. The Perry Mason Company published *The Youth's Companion*, a weekly illustrated family paper, for 100 years starting in April 1827.³

Rogers speculated that this oddity was either a special arrangement whereby Burt sold excess inventory to Mason for resale or Mason acquired the books for a circulation promotion. Actually, the latter is correct as can be seen in the advertisement from the April 5, 1888 issue of *The Youth's Companion* (see Example 6). These specially prepared paperback editions were available as a premium to any subscriber that sent in the name of a potential subscriber or could be purchased at the indicated price. The premium advertisement shows four titles available for one new name or for sale as a group for \$1.00 plus 20 cents postage, hence the 30 cents price first reported by Rogers.

Another volume from this series, *Ben Burton, the Slate Picker* (Number 6 in the *Boys' Home Library*), is illustrated in Example 7. Unfortunately, this copy is missing the rear cover, so this information cannot be corroborated.

However, I would bet that it would be identical to the copy described by Rogers.


The *Youth's Companion* contained a premium section (one was 38 pages in length) in eight separate issues during the three-year period starting in 1888. Four of these premium sections contained the Burt paper editions as inducements for new subscribers.⁴ Although the advertisements always show the same four books, it seems logical that additional titles were printed at least up to Number 14 as mentioned by Rogers. I would guess that the 14 titles were used interchangeably depending on the supply on hand. Although none of the five purported Alger titles with the Perry Mason imprint have surfaced, it seems likely that they were published at some point. Since these books were essentially Burt publications, they should be considered a variant and not a new publisher.

I know of five copies of a second variant issue being identical to the first printing in all aspects except for a blank rear cover. Three of these copies contain the

(Continued on Page 8)

Volume 1, No. 11 PRICE, 25 CENTS, Yearly, \$3 00. July, 1888.

BOYS' HOME LIBRARY.



TOM THATCHER'S FORTUNE
BY HORATIO ALGER, JR.

A. L. BURT, Publisher, New York.
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE BOYS' HOME LIBRARY.



It is almost superfluous to say anything in praise of stories written by Horatio Alger, Jr., Harry Castlemon, Edward S. Ellis, James Otis, and others who have contributed to the stories published in the *Boys' Home Library*. These names are a passport, as every youngster knows, to hours of the liveliest delight and enjoyment in scenes of stirring life and adventure. A more judicious selection of spirited stories for boys it would be hard to find than the following list, and parents realizing this should provide these books for their children without hesitation.

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6. **BEN BURTON, THE SLATE-PICKER**. By HARRY CASTLEMON.
7. **TOM TEMPLE'S CAREER**. By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
8. **TOM THE READY**; or, Up from the Lowest. By RANOLD HILL.
9. **THE CASTAWAYS**; or, On the Florida Reef. By JAMES OTIS.
10. **CAPTAIN KIDD'S GOLD**. The True Story of an Adventurous Sailor Boy. By JAMES FRANKLIN FLETCHER.
11. **TOM THATCHER'S FORTUNE**. By HORATIO ALGER, JR. [Ready July 1.]
12. **LOST IN THE CANON**. The Story of Sam Willett's Adventures on the Great Colorado of the West. By ALFRED R. CHAMBERS. [Ready August 1.]
13. **A YOUNG HERO**; or, Fighting to Win. By EDWARD S. ELLIS. [Ready September 1.]

The above stories are printed on extra paper, and bound in handsome cloth binding, at \$1.00 per copy. They may be had of booksellers or the Publisher.

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For sale at all Book Stores and Newsdealers, or will be sent, postpaid, on receipt of price, by the publisher.

A. L. BURT, 56 Beekman St., New York.

Ex. 4: The front and rear covers of the first printing of *Tom Thatcher's Fortune*, with the advertisement showing 10 titles in print and Nos. 11-13 projected. A.L. Burt's 56 Beekman St. address is introduced.



THE BOYS' HOME LIBRARY.

It is almost superfluous to say anything in praise of stories written by Horatio Alger, Jr., Harry Castlemon, Edward S. Ellis, James Otis, and others who have contributed to **THE BOYS' HOME LIBRARY.** These names are a passport, as every youngster knows, to hours of the keenest delight and enjoyment in scenes of stirring life and adventure. These experienced writers understand exactly how to write stories full of excitement, yet not demoralizing or dull; incalculating, incidentally, manliness, and inclining to whatever is good.

It is the design in this series to supply stories of the highest grade, by popular writers, at a low price. A more judicious selection of spirited stories for boys it would be hard to find. Parents without hesitation list, and parents realizing this should provide their children with a copy.

THE FOLLOWING TITLES ARE IN PRINT:

1. **JOE'S LUCK**; or, A Boy's Adventures in California. By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
2. **JULIAN MORTIMER**; or, A Brave Boy's Struggles for Knowledge and Fortune. By HARRY CASTLEMON.
3. **ADRIFT IN THE WILDS**; or, The Adventures of Two Shipwrecked Boys. By EDWARD S. ELLIS.
4. **FRANK FOWLER, THE CASH BOY.** By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
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11. **TOM THATCHER'S FORTUNE.** By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
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13. **A YOUNG HERO**; or, Fighting to Win. By EDWARD S. ELLIS.
14. **THE ERRAND BOY**; or, How Phil Brent Won Success. By HORATIO ALGER, JR.
15. **THE ISLAND TREASURE**; or, Harry Darrell's Fortunes. By FRANK H. CUMMINGS.
16. **A RUNAWAY BRIG**; or, An Accidental Cruise. By JAMES OTIS. (Ready Nov. 1.)
17. **A JAUNT THROUGH JAVA.** The Story of a Journey to the Sacred Mountain by Two American Boys. By EDWARD S. ELLIS. (Ready Jan. 1.)

Note: The above stories are illustrated, printed on extra paper, and bound in handsome cloth binding, at \$1.00 per copy. They may be had of Booksellers or the Publishers.

REMEMBER **THE BOYS' HOME LIBRARY** is published on the first of each month. Each number will contain a complete story, illustrated, occupying from 250 to 300 pages, and bound in neat paper cover. Price, 25 cents per copy; yearly subscription, \$2.50. **WE DESIRE TO HAVE YOUR YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION.**

For sale at all Book-Stores and Newsdealers, or will be sent, post-paid, on receipt of price, by the publisher.

A. L. BURT, 56 Beekman St., New York.

Ex. 5: The front and rear covers of the first printing of *The Errand Boy*, with the advertisement showing 14 titles in print and Nos. 15-17 projected. The 56 Beekman St. address continued with this issue.

The A. L. Burt Boys' Home Library

(Continued from Page 7)

Beekman Street address (found in the internal advertisements) and the other two do not list any address. Rogers speculated, I think correctly, that these editions were later printings published after a decision was made to discontinue the series. This makes sense since it would seem impractical to advertise earlier numbers that might not be available. I think it unlikely that this variant would carry the William Street address. If such a copy were to appear, it probably would be an example of a legitimate printing error.

The third known variant issue, illustrated in Example 8, is probably the rarest. Brad Chase identifies this as Paperback Format II, Format No. 2 in his book.⁵ I know of only two copies of this format – one residing in a university library and one in a private collection. The volume not pictured is *Joe's Luck* and both copies are identical in all other aspects. The front cover is missing the pictorial scenes and the rear cover is blank like the

preceding variant. Both books have a salmon colored wrapper, instead of the normal cream color, and neither contains an address. It has been suggested that this production was either a printing error or a "special" early printing promulgated before it was decided to add the pictorial scenes. I do not find favor with either theory. Given Burt's propensity to experiment with cover designs and formats, this seems to be just another example of using up old stock with "new" covers. These editions were probably printed while Burt operated from 56 Beekman Street.

Another interesting feature about this series is the copious number of sizes extant. Eight different dimensions have been documented ranging from 4½ x 7 inches up to 5½ x 7¼ inches. Although it appears that the smaller editions (i.e., less wide) are predominately early issues, I think it would be imprudent to date your book based solely upon this attribute. Instead, it would seem that the size of the book is more a function of the binder on the particular day the books were assembled.

A cursory examination of the pagination and number

Four Popular Books for Boys.

All given for one new name.

Library of Adventure and Romance.

"Guy Harris, the Runaway," by Harry Castlemon, 285 pages. "Joe's Luck," a Boy's Adventure in California, by Horatio Alger, Jr., 223 pages. "Adrift in the Wilds," the Adventures of Two Shipwrecked Boys, by Edward S. Ellis, 279 pages. "Ben Burton, the Slate-Picker," by Harry Prentice, 275 pages. 4 vols., paper bound, 1,062 pages, all given for one new name.



It is unnecessary to say anything in praise of stories written by these popular authors; their names are a passport, as every boy knows, to hours of the keenest delight and enjoyment in scenes of stirring life and adventure. Such men as Castlemon, Alger, Ellis and Prentice understand exactly how to write stories full of adventure, yet not demoralizing or dull.

The titles suggest the stories, and they will be a rare treat to our boy subscribers. These same books are sold in cloth at \$1 per volume.

We offer the four volumes, bound in handsome paper covers and illustrated, for one new name. Price of the set, \$1. Postage and packing, 20 cts. additional, when sent as a premium or purchased.

Ex. 6: A premium advertisement from the April 5, 1888 issue of *The Youth's Companion* showing The Perry Mason Company's reissues of the series carrying the new title Boys' Library of Adventure and Romance.

of chapters between the paper editions and hard-cover Fez editions revealed that they were mostly consistent. The biggest variance occurs in *Joe's Luck*. The William Street editions (both paper and hard cover) contain 223 text pages and 40 chapters. The Beekman Street printings, and all subsequent editions, have 248 text pages and 43 chapters. Apparently, three extra chapters were inserted between chapters 39 and 40 of the original story. As expected, the serialization in the *New York Weekly* contains 40 chapters.⁶

Although a thorough analysis of the earliest hard-cover editions will appear in the second part of this article, it might be appropriate to mention a few facts at this time. There exists a hard-cover Fez edition of *Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy* with the 162 William Street address. This book contains six pages of advertisements, but no listing of the Boys' Home Library or any other juvenile titles. This title was published in December 1887 and the copy in hand has a bona fide Christmas 1887 inscription. This would indicate that, *prima facie*, Burt was issuing paper- and hard-cover editions simultaneously from at least Number 4.



Ex. 7: *Ben Burton, the Slate Picker* by Harry Prentice with The Perry Mason Company wrapper.

The first advertisement for the hard cover editions appears in the paper edition of *Guy Harris, the Runaway* (Number 5) by Harry Castlemon published in January 1888. The rear cover lists six numbers with the sixth title projected for February 1. However, the internal advertisement lists all six titles in print and available in cloth editions each priced at \$1.00 (see Example 9).

The advertisement for the hard-cover editions finally moves to the rear cover in February 1888, with the publication of *Ben Burton, the Slate Picker* (Number 6). The following notice appears after the title listing:

The above stories are printed on extra paper, and bound in handsome cloth binding, at \$1.00 per copy. They may be had of Booksellers or the Publisher.

This notice, or some variation, appears on the rear cover of all subsequent paper editions.

The preliminary evidence at this time would indicate that the publication of hard-cover and paper editions of

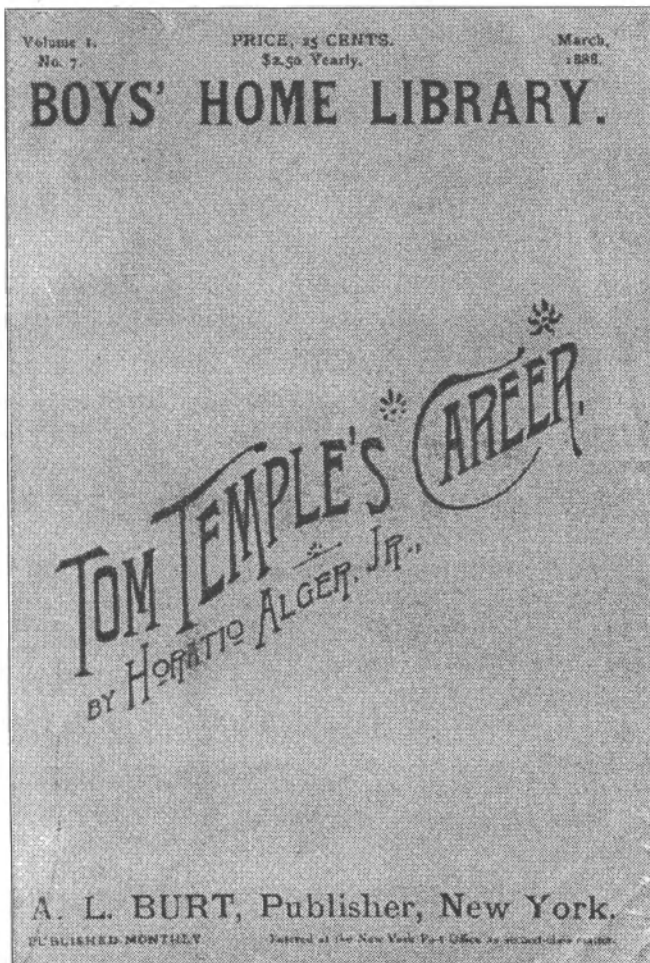
(Continued on Page 10)

The A. L. Burt Boys' Home Library

(Continued from Page 9)

the **Boys' Home Library** was coterminous, at least from December 1887 onward. However, a closer examination of the earliest hard-cover editions must be made before this question can be fully answered. Since there are two known Alger hard-cover editions that predate the Fez editions, it is possible that Burt may have been issuing hard-cover editions from the inception of this series in September 1887.

The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Brad Chase (PF-412), Arthur Young (PF-941), Jerry Friedland (PF-376) and Bill Russell (PF-549) for access to their collections and for their extensive knowledge of Horatio Alger, Jr. A special acknowledgement to Mark Williams (PF-1041), Archives Specialist, Rare Books and Special Collections at Northern Illinois University, who supplied many of the illustrations and other material.



Ex. 8: The front cover of *Tom Temple's Career* in Variant No. 3, with no pictorial scenes on the front cover and the rear cover blank.

NOTES:

1. Bradford S. Chase, *Horatio Alger Books Published by A. L. Burt*, Enfield, CT, privately printed, 1983, p. vii.
2. Denis R. Rogers, "Hybrids, Oddities and Freaks," *Dime Novel Round-Up*, March and April 1972, Vol. 41, Nos. 4 & 5, Whole Nos. 475 and 476 and "A Survey of the Probable Publication Pattern of the Books by Edward S. Ellis Issued under the Imprints of A. L. Burt and the A. L. Burt Company, New York," April 1977, Vol. 46, No. 2, Whole Number 524.
3. Lovell Thompson, editor, *The Youth's Companion*, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1936, p. 2.
4. *The Youth's Companion*, April 5, 1888, Oct. 25, 1888, Oct. 31, 1889 and Oct. 30, 1890.
5. Chase, p. 15.
6. *New York Weekly*, Vol. 33, Nos. 16-25, March 4-May 6, 1878.

USEFUL AND PRACTICAL BOOKS.

BOOKS FOR BOYS.

- Joe's Luck; or, A Boy's Adventures in California.** By Horatio Alger, Jr. Illustrated. Cloth. Price, \$1.00.
- Julian Mortimer; or, A Brave Boy's Struggles for Home and Fortune.** By Harry Castlemon. Illustrated. Cloth. Price, \$1.00.
- Adrift in the Wilds; or, The Adventures of Two Shipwrecked Boys.** By Edward S. Ellis. Illustrated. Cloth. Price, \$1.00.
- Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy.** By Horatio Alger, Jr. Illustrated. Cloth. Price, \$1.00.
- Guy Harris, the Runaway.** By Harry Castlemon. Illustrated. Cloth. Price, \$1.00.
- Ben Burton, the Slate Picker.** By Harry Prentice. Illustrated. Cloth. Price, \$1.00.

THE JENNY JUNE SERIES OF MANUALS FOR LADIES.

- Needle-Work:** A manual of stitches and studies in embroidery and drawn work. Edited by Jenny June. Illustrated. Paper cover. Price, 50 cents.
- Knitting and Crochet:** A guide to the use of the needle and the hook. Edited by Jenny June. Illustrated. Paper cover. Price, 50 cents.
- Ladies' Fancy Work:** New Edition. A new book, giving designs and plain directions for all kinds of Fancy Needle-work. Edited by Jenny June. 700 illustrations. Paper cover. Price, 50 cents.
- Letters and Monograms:** For marking on Silk, Linen and other fabrics, for individuals, and household use. Edited by Jenny June. 1,000 illustrations. Paper cover. Price, 50 cents.

Burt's Selected Gems of Song: A choice collection of sixty-two favorite songs from the works of the best composers, with accompaniments for piano and organ. Paper cover. Price, 60 cents.

Burt's Selected Gems of Melody: A collection of eighty popular compositions of instrumental music for the home, selected from the works of favorite composers, arranged for the piano and organ. Paper cover. Price, 60 cents.

Burt's Selected Gems of Dance Music: A choice selection of seventy-eight pieces of standard dance music from the works of favorite composers, arranged for the piano or organ. Paper cover. Price, 60 cents.

Patience Pettigrew's Perplexities. A veracious history of the experiences of Patience Pettigrew, relict of the late lamented Josiah Pettigrew, Esq., etc., etc. By Clara Augusta. Illustrated by Thos. Worth. Paper cover. Price, 25 cents.

Paper Flowers: A manual of designs and directions for making paper flowers from tissue paper. By Florence. Illustrated by A. O. C. Paper cover. Price, 15 cents.

For sale by all Booksellers, or will be sent post-paid on receipt of the price by the publisher, A. L. BURT, 162 William St., New York.

Ex. 9: An internal advertisement from the paper edition of *Guy Harris, the Runaway*, showing six hard-cover titles available for \$1.00 each in January 1888.

Why I Read Alger

By Angelo Sylvester (PF-928)

Horatio Alger, Jr., has been subjected to torrents of negative criticism. Detractors accuse him of repetitious and simplistic plots full of false situations with an excessive amount of foolish dialogue using rigid and unimaginative vocabulary.

How it is then that his books have outsold those of all other authors? The stingiest estimate from his detractors place this at 17 million books, while ardent fans say it's 400 million.

The truth is somewhere in between. This is amazing, as the population of the United States during his lifetime never exceeded 75 million.

The answer is that Alger was a master of fantasy and reality. His prime audience was the ordinary teenager of his time, who could relate to his tales. The young of his day were poor and uneducated who existed in the slums of the city, the drudgery of farm work or the dead-end future in a small town. They could never have related to the wild tales of adventure in exotic lands with such descriptive scenes, often set in the days of yore. All this was unknown to them. Theirs was the stark day-to-day battle for survival.

That is the world that Alger wrote about. That is the life I led as a child and young teenager during the Great Depression in the slums of New York City near Baxter and Mulberry Streets, a place that Alger wrote about in many of his novels.

In this respect, Alger is a realist.

a.) He comes to the point at once, usually in the first page, e.g.:

"I wish I could pay off the mortgage ..."

Or, "I wish we were not so poor..."

In this aspect he is on a par with Ernest Hemingway. b.) He described monetary transactions in the simple terms of addition, subtraction and percentages. All this was vital to the youngsters then trying to earn a living as a bootblack or newsboy.

c.) His heroes must not only be good, honest and persevering, but need amazing luck. Such luck is often the true story of those who were able to rise to fame and fortune.

Regarding Alger as a fantasy writer, his heroes appear initially as deprived of success, toiling in menial jobs or are

homeless, unemployed waifs. This appeals to readers, many of whom started out the same way. However, in Alger's dream world, heroes would:

- a.) Rise out of poverty, and/or,
- b.) Marry a rich, pretty girl, and/or,
- c.) Become esteemed and prominent.

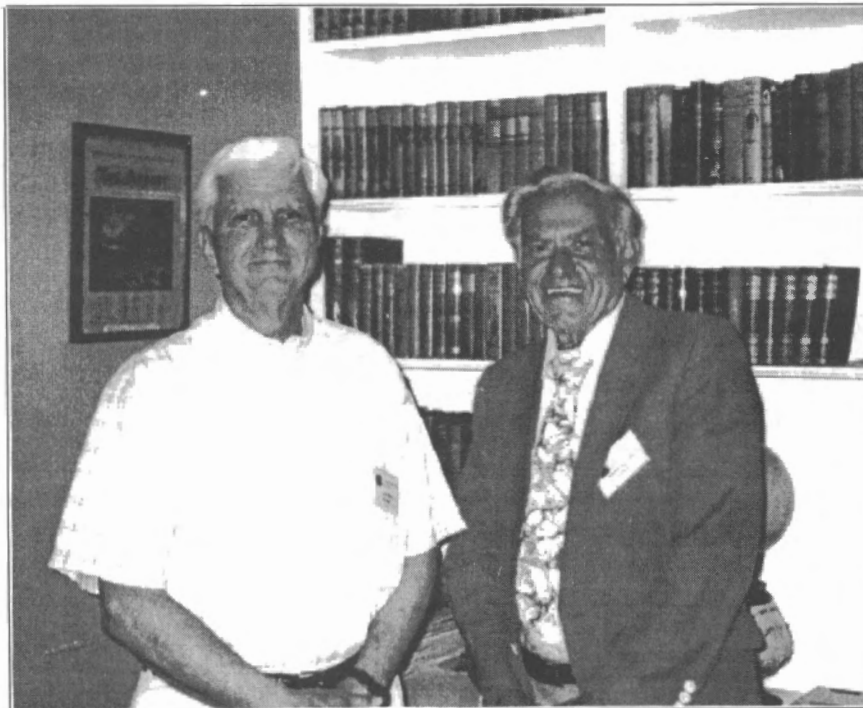
In this respect:
a.) I did rise out from poverty, even if only still below the median income.

b.) I married a pretty girl (but as poor as me) and for 52 years live happily ever after.

c.) I am esteemed and prominent in the eyes of those I love.

Alger's simplistic wording and fast action were a further key to having his readers either hope for better days or else be justified that they have overcome many of the hazards his heroes dealt with. For the young (and even those past their prime) his books gave reasons for bettering oneself via self-study, while avoiding the common curses of stealing, lying, smoking, drinking and gambling.

We are no longer teenagers ourselves. Nevertheless, I hope that every Horatio Alger Society member could share my feeling on the above and try to relate to Alger's principles in their own private lives and of those they love.



Angelo Sylvester, right, is joined by fellow H.A.S. member Larry Rice at host Carol Nackenoff's home during the 2000 convention, "In a New World in West Chester."

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

MEMBERSHIP

New members

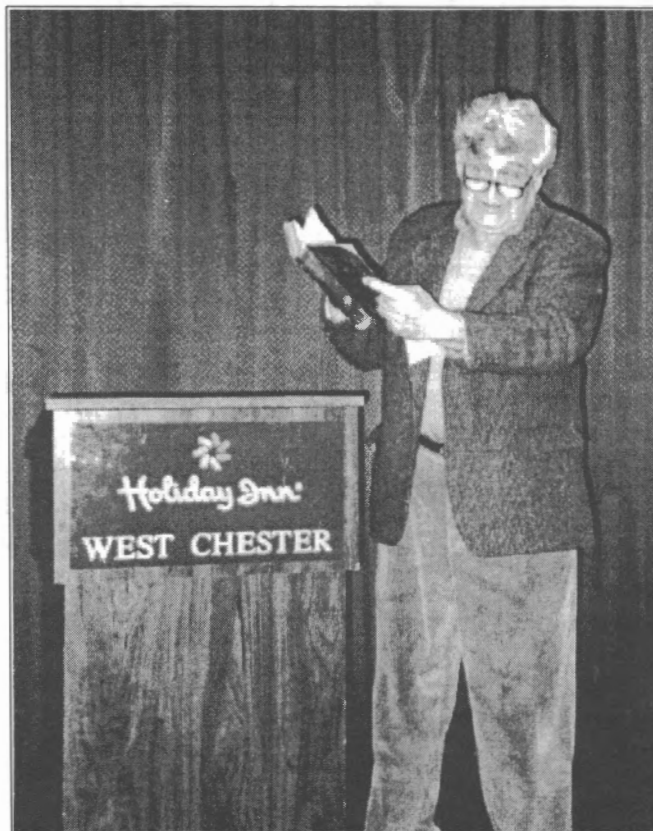
Chet Brisley (PF-1047)
316 Yorkshire Drive
Cumberland Gap, TN 37724-9719

Chet, a college professor with two degrees in engineering and a Ph. D. in speech, says he last summer retired "for the fourth time at the age of 85." He says one of his great inspirations was reading Horatio Alger's books while growing up "as a very poor boy in Warren, Ohio." He learned about the Horatio Alger Society from a friend.

Change of address

Rolfe B. Chase (PF-602)
1009 Rough Diamond Dr.
Prescott, AZ 86301-5839 (520) 541-0369
E-mail: RolfeKitty@aol.com

Samuel T. Huang (PF-963)
12411 N. Mount Bigelow
Oro Valley, AZ 85737 (520) 878-8188



Auctioneer Jerry Friedland asks for a bid during the annual consignment auction held at the 2000 H.A.S. convention in West Chester, Pa. Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

Moving?

Send your new address, phone number and e-mail address to:

Horatio Alger Society
P.O. Box 70361
Richmond, VA 23255

For Sale

One Man's collection, including
45 Algers, 45 Optics, 25 Castlemons.
Send a long SASE for list to:

Bill Baab (PF-980)
2352 Devere St.
Augusta, GA 30904

Malcolm the Waterboy, or A Mystery of Old London

By John T. Dizer (PF-511)

Malcolm the Waterboy by "D.T. Henty" is one of the rarest and most sought-after books in the Stratemeyer canon. It is found in a few university library special collections. It is found in both Henty and Stratemeyer private collections. Stratemeyer collectors, of course, look for the title because of the Stratemeyer connection. Many George A. Henty collectors also look for "Malcolm" simply because of the Henty name.

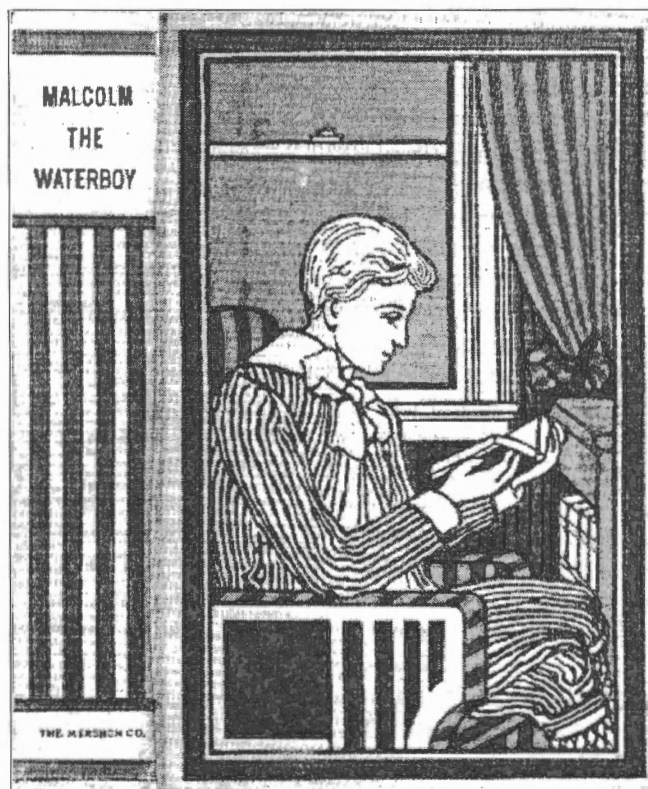
One could well ask, why? It was not written by G.A. Henty and it was not written by Edward Stratemeyer. You would also think that it should not be difficult to find, since it was in print for at least eight years and in at least eight different editions. So why do both Henty and Stratemeyer collectors pay fabulous sums for a copy of the book? Let's take a detailed look at "Malcolm":

Malcolm the Waterboy, or a Mystery of Old London, by "D.T. Henty" first appeared in *Bright Days*, a magazine for boys and girls. It was published as a serial, starting in Volume II, Number 15, Nov. 7, 1896, and ran to Dec. 26, 1896. *Bright Days* was owned, published and edited by Edward Stratemeyer. Much of the content was written by Stratemeyer and, as a result, this serial has often been attributed to Stratemeyer. Researcher/collector Chester G. Mayo addressed the question of authorship in his bibliography of *Bright Days*. In a note, he says: "Roy B. Van Devier [a noted Stratemeyer collector] thinks this [D.T. Henty] is a pseudonym of Stratemeyer but has no proof."¹

Stratemeyer, actual author or not, obviously owned the story for it was one of a group of Stratemeyer-controlled stories which were printed in hard cover by Mershon in 1900. James D. Keeline recently sent me a copy of the December 1899 contract between Edward Stratemeyer and the Mershon Company. It states, in part: "... Edward Stratemeyer grants to the Mershon Company the exclusive right to publish in book form the following stories, stories which are either his own productions or upon which he owns the present copyrights."

After referring to *The Young Bandmaster* and *The Rover Boys Out West*, the contract continues, "... also eight stories which are now Mr. Stratemeyer's copyright and which he agrees to edit especially for book publication, the present titles of the stories being as follows ..."

The eight stories included *The Land of Fire* and *Fortune Hunters of the Philippines* by "Louis Charles"; *Volcano Island* and *The Luck of a Castaway* by "Mark Marline"; *The Wizard of the Deep* and *A Nobody Schoolboy* by "Roy



The first hard-cover edition of *Malcolm the Waterboy*, published by Mershon in 1900.

Rockwood": *For Name and Fame* by "Allen Chapman" and *Malcolm the Waterboy* by "D.T. Henty."

The entry for "Malcolm" is significant since it reads, "*Malcolm the Waterboy* by D.T. Henty (Americanized from some old English source)." The contract also says, "These eight stories to be published in a separate series and to be known in this agreement as the Boys' Own Series." The other seven books had much the same printing history as "Malcolm."

For Name and Fame became *Walter Loring's Career* and was combined in one hard-cover volume with *Boys of Spring Hill*. This book when first published by Mershon carried the title *Bound to Rise*, but in 1905 the title was changed to *Boys of Spring Hill*. It is believed this change came about to avoid confusion with Alger's *Bound to Rise*, a reprint edition of which Mershon happened to be publishing at the time.

Incidentally, *Boys of Spring Hill* originally was published in serial form in *Bright Days* between May and July 1896 under the title "The Young Florists of Spring Hill" by "Albert Lee Ford." Other title changes: *A Nobody Schoolboy* became *A Schoolboy's Pluck* in book form

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Malcolm the Waterboy

(Continued from Page 13)

and *The Wizard of the Deep* became *Wizard of the Sea*.

Robert L. Dartt, in his Henty bibliography, says: "The Harvard copy [of "Malcolm"] is one of Mershon's Boys' Own Series and is dated 1901."² This is of interest since I have found no early Mershon books nor Mershon ads which mention the "Boys' Own Series." In addition, throughout the early printing history of these books the only date given in the books themselves is the copyright date of 1900. This seems to confirm the above December 1899 contract that presented all eight stories as a group for hard-cover publication.

The formats and printing history of *Malcolm the Waterboy* are of interest to many collectors. As far as I know, all hard-cover texts are identical and all were printed from the same plates. The differences are only in the binding and title pages. Since "Malcolm" is a short tale of only 133 pages, all copies that I have seen are fleshed out with another story, *On to Cuba*, with no author given but D.T. Henty assumed. The two stories together have a total of 209 pages. *On to Cuba* has no connection whatsoever with "Malcolm." It was also published in *Bright Days* from Oct. 31, 1896 to Nov. 28, 1896. At that time the title was "On to Cuba, or Nellie and Nat Denham in Search of Their Father," and the author was given as "Ralph Harrington."

Van Devier believed that Stratemeyer wrote *On to Cuba* and, from a reading of the story, it seems quite possible. At any rate, Stratemeyer obviously owned the story and included it with "Malcolm" to fill out the book's 200-plus pages, much as he did with *Boys of Spring Hill/Walter Loring's Career*.

Printing history and formats

The observed printings of *Malcolm the Waterboy* follow:

1. Mershon, 1900. The front cover shows a boy at a window, seated at a desk facing to the right, reading a book. Various colors of binding have been observed, the most common being light olive green, gray or tan. The cover illustration is in dark brown and orange and the title and publisher on the spine is in black. The title and author do not appear on the front cover.

The title page is Mershon Type M, with **New York/The Mershon Company/Publishers** in capital letters at the bottom. I believe these features indicate a first edition of "Malcolm" as well as the other seven titles mentioned above.

2. Wanamaker Type C. The early John Wanamaker edition dates from about 1900-1901, and resulted from a reprint arrangement between Mershon and the famous department store. The words "The Wanamaker Young People's Library" are centered in a diamond-shaped

scroll on the cover. The scroll also encloses profile views of a boy and girl facing each other. The observed binding colors are green or tan and the cover and spine are outlined with red rules. The spine shows the publisher and title in gold. The spine design is black scrollwork approximating an arrowhead and contains a shield of sorts in brown, with an open book in the center. The title page is identical to the Mershon edition, except that **John Wanamaker/Philadelphia New York Paris** appears in capital letters at the bottom of the page.

3. Mershon, early 1902. About this time, Mershon adopted a cover showing a camping scene: two boys in front of a tent, with one boy shooting at deer in the background. This cover was used on many Mershon titles until 1905, including both the Alger *Bound to Rise* and the Chapman *Bound to Rise* titles. Various colors of cloth were used, including green, blue, brown and red. The title page is Mershon Type M, as above.

4. Mershon, 1902-1905. Same as Type 3, except for the title page, which is now a Mershon Type R. The bottom of the page reads **The Mershon Company/Rahway, N.J. New York**, all in capital letters. The Rahway name was apparently added in early 1902.

5. Wanamaker Type B: This was apparently printed concurrently with type 4 from about 1902 until about 1906 or even later. The cover has been redesigned from the early Wanamaker edition. Now, the boy and girl, larger this time, are facing forward, encircled in interlocking ornamental semicircles, with the whole cover front enclosed by a black scrollwork border. The black design on the spine is a vertical version of this scrollwork, with two modified rectangles or crosses, the smaller inside the larger. **John Wanamaker/Philadelphia New York Paris**, all in capital letters, appears at the foot of the title page. This binding appeared in many different colors, including dark green, brown and slate-blue. I have seen "Malcolm" in bright red.

6. Stitt. When William Stitt took over Mershon's publishing firm in 1905, he made many changes to the design of the Mershon bindings, though none to the books' contents. "Malcolm" has been seen in the proprietary Stitt binding which shows a boy standing on a platform with a rifle, in front of a large red, wreathed circle. As his feet are snowshoes, a football, baseball bat and tennis racket. The spine shows a gun, bat and hockey stick.

The title page has been changed and now includes four contiguous rectangles, stacked vertically, bordered by heavy black rules. These rectangles enclose the title, author, Stitt logo and publisher. The latter, at the bottom of the page, is shown as **New York/Stitt Publishing Company/Publishers**, all in capital letters.

7. Mershon 1906. When the Stitt Company became Mershon again in 1906, it continued the Stitt cover



THEY EXAMINED THE STEEL BAND. Frontispiece.

MALCOLM
THE WATERBOY
OR
A MYSTERY OF OLD LONDON

BY
D. T. HENTY



NEW YORK
THE MERSHON COMPANY
PUBLISHERS

The title page and frontispiece from Mershon's first hard-cover edition of *Malcolm the Waterboy*.

format of "Malcolm," including the Stitt cover design and the title page with its four rectangular boxes outlined by heavy black rules. However the publisher listing at the bottom of the page reverted to **The Mershon Company/Rahway, New Jersey New York**, all in capital letters as in format Type 4.

8. **Chatterton-Peck, late 1906 to ca. 1909.** According to *Publisher's Weekly*, Mershon was sold to Chatterton-Peck in October 1906. Chatterton-Peck apparently retained the Stitt/late Mershon format, changing only the publisher's name on the title page and spine. I have not personally observed a Chatterton-Peck copy of "Malcolm," although other books in this group like *Boys of Spring Hill*, *Wizard of the Sea*, etc. were published in Chatterton-Peck "house" cover formats such as its **Rambling Boys Series** design (also adapted for some C-P Rover Boys reprints) showing three boys exploring a rocky, tree-lined lakefront.

9. **Variants.** Over the years, with Mershon, Stitt, Chatterton-Peck and Grosset & Dunlap printing many

of the same titles, we often find books with one publisher's name on the title page and a different publisher on the spine. These "transitional" formats are usually due to unbound pages and cover stock being passed along from one publisher to the next.

This is true of *Malcolm the Waterboy*. Truman Holland has a late Mershon (Type 7) with the proper binding and title page, except for C-P Co. stamped on the spine. Other variants may very well exist.

Following Stratemeyer's legal battles with C-P/Stitt/Mershon, which ended in 1908, many of the Stratemeyer-controlled titles like the Rover Boys were switched to Grosset & Dunlap. However, Chatterton-Peck continued to print others. It appears that when Charles H. Peck retired from C-P, around 1909, the plates from this group of early Stratemeyer/Mershon titles were sold to A.L. Burt and reprinted by them.

An A.L. Burt dust jacket from about 1910 lists in its "Wide Awake Boys' Series" seven of the eight 1900

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Malcolm the Waterboy

(Continued from Page 15)

Mershon titles. These include *Boys of Spring Hill* (originally titled *Bound to Rise*, as noted earlier), *Fortune Hunters of the Philippines*, *The Land of Fire*, *The Luck of a Castaway*, *Lost on Volcano Island*, *A Schoolboy's Pluck* and *Wizard of the Sea*. Only "Malcolm" is missing. I believe we can be quite certain that Chatterton-Peck was the final publisher of *Malcolm the Waterboy*, in the 1907-1908 period.

If "Malcolm" was published for about eight years in about eight formats, there should be a lot of copies out there. Where are they? A search in WorldCat by James D. Keeline lists only eight copies in American libraries. They can be found at the Cranston (R.I.) Public Library, the West Georgia Regional Library, the University of South Florida, Harvard University, Northern Illinois University (two copies), Cornell University and the University of Southern Mississippi.

I feel certain that some other copies exist in the major research collections of other American universities, but for some reason are not listed. Henty and Stratemeyer collectors also own a certain number of copies. I suspect that "Malcolm" simply was never printed or sold in large quantities. There is no question but what it is hard to find.

Authorship

Who wrote *Malcolm the Waterboy, or a Mystery of Old London*? Who was D.T. Henty? Farmer, a Henty bibliographer, says, "... in some cases an attempt was made to attribute to [G.A.] Henty stories which he never wrote."³

Dartt says, "This story, an 'illegitimate' Henty, was evidently an attempt to capitalize on the popularity of G.A. Henty's name...[It] was written by Edward Stratemeyer, a prolific writer of boys' books..."⁴

John Cargill Thompson, another Henty bibliographer, writes, "*Malcolm the Waterboy* by D.T. Henty is a highly prized item, bound in with this a second 'illegitimate' story, *On to Cuba*." He also mentions the Stratemeyer-controlled story *The Stone Chest* (utilized to fill out the hard-cover edition of G.A. Henty's *The Golden Cañon*), and adds, "None of these three stories are by Henty yet they all appear to be a deliberate attempt to mislead the public into the belief that they are his work."⁵

In describing "Malcolm," WorldCat lists the author as Edward Stratemeyer in one place but in others says: "Notes: Has been attributed to Edward Stratemeyer but is not a proven Stratemeyer pseudonym." As I have noted in earlier writings, Stratemeyer once used "P.T. Barnum, Jr," then "Theodore Barnum" and finally "Capt. Ralph Bonehill" as author of the same story. The practice was common at the time and Stratemeyer was certainly

not above capitalizing on a popular name. I believe he used the "D.T. Henty" name deliberately, but it does not mean he wrote the story.

Our best clues to the real author, at least so far, are in Stratemeyer's ledger, where he listed the stories he wrote, and in the details of his contract with Mershon. Stratemeyer was editor of both **Young People of America** and **Bright Days**. The Stratemeyer records at the New York Public Library show he both wrote and bought stories for publication. Nowhere have we found anything to show that he wrote "Malcolm," nor indeed that he wrote all of the other seven stories he sold to Mershon in 1899 in this "Boys' Own Series" group. He owned the rights to "Malcolm," which was "Americanized from some old English source."

Where did it come from? We have no idea. There was no copyright law to protect an "old English source." Did Stratemeyer "Americanize" it or did someone else? Or indeed, how much was it Americanized?

A rereading of "Malcolm" shows that it is not a "Harry Potter." It certainly does not read like either G.A. Henty or Stratemeyer.

The story concerns "... Malcolm Arundel, the waterboy of the Thames, and the hero of this true tale of life in the seventeenth century..." The story is written in what I would semi-archaic language. The dialogue is stilted and not exactly scintillating. Here are examples:

"Fear not; I will never betray you."

"Nay, for I shall be absent. Remain at some quiet hostelry until the evening."

"I can scarcely credit the story you tell."

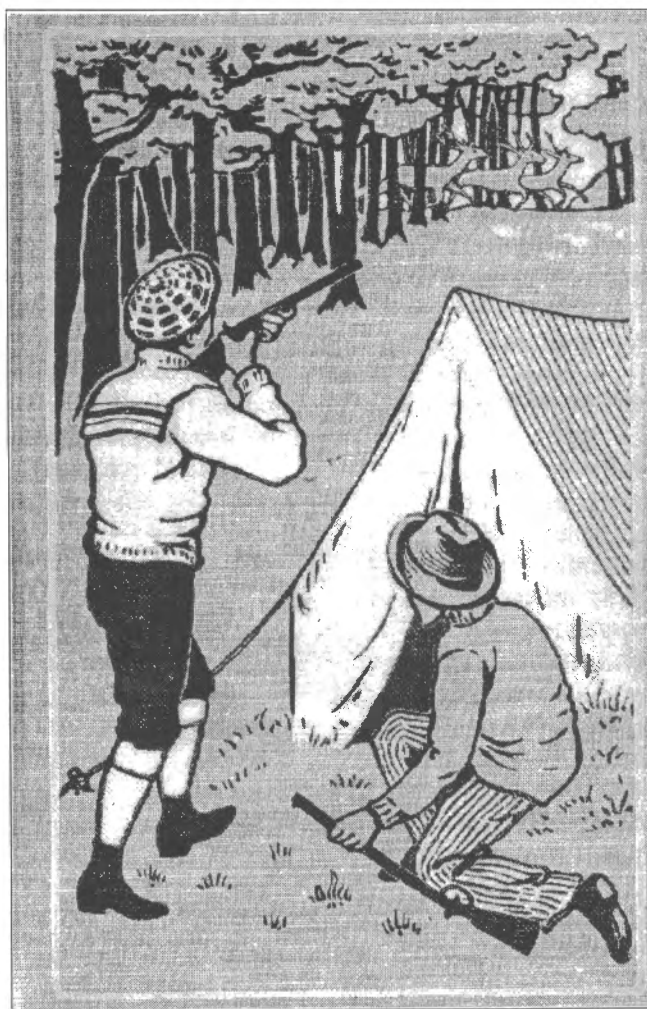
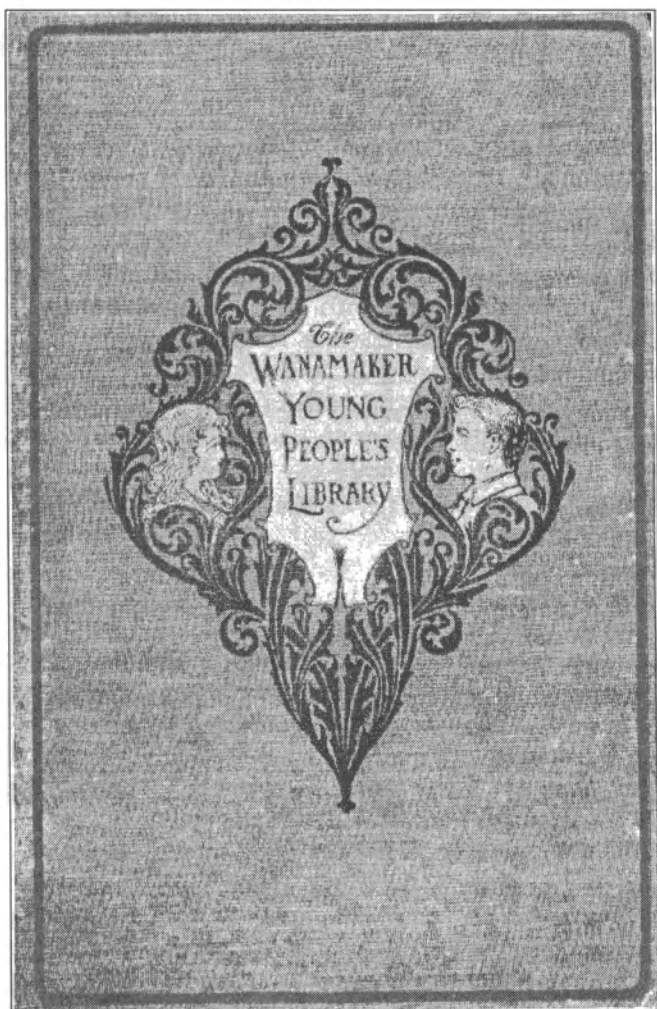
"What can be more mysterious than the secret of your birth?"

"He was quickly in the saddle and wending his way in the direction of the city."

"Tis a fitting end," said the Horseman. "He was the enemy of all mankind and a traitor to the king."

"Come, we will roll away his body and search the chest."

There is, however, sufficient action in the 133 pages for my taste. Robbery, murder, arson and similar activities run rampant. Malcolm, who starts the story as chief apprentice to a prominent master waterman, is found at the dramatic denouement to be the long-lost Lord Robert Downes. He joins his mother at the family estate. "Pen cannot describe the joy of that moment." In later years he marries his beautiful sweetheart "... and served the king in one of the greatest



Two editions in which *Malcolm the Waterboy* was published: John Wanamaker Type C, which appeared in 1900-01; and the Mershon "camping scene" cover, introduced in early 1902 and used until 1905.

wars of the times." So much for Malcolm.

My impression is that Stratemeyer may well have done considerable editing of "Malcolm," but I question if he had anything to do with the original story. I doubt if we will ever know who wrote the original story. To me, none of the book — the plotting, the dialogue or the character development — is up to Stratemeyer standards. I did enjoy the action, though.

Visit the official Horatio Alger

Society Internet site at:

www.ihot.com/~has/

What more can we say? *Malcolm the Waterboy* was first produced in hard cover by Stratemeyer and was Stratemeyer-controlled. It is definitely part of the canon and belongs in any complete Stratemeyer collection. I believe he wrote as much of it as he did of many of the Mark Marlines, Louis Charles, Roy Rockwoods and others that are attributed to him.

I also know that if you want a copy you should be prepared to pay plenty or be extremely lucky. It is a rare book.

NOTES:

1. Mayo, Chester G., Capt., USN (Ret.). *Bibliographic Listing of Bright Days*. Bibliographic Listing No. 8, Fall River, Mass.: Edward T. LeBlanc, publisher, December 1962.
2. Dartt, Robert L. G.A. Henty, *A Bibliography*. Cedar Grove, N.J.: Dar-Web, 1971, p. 94.
3. Dartt, p. viii.
4. Dartt, p. 94.
5. Thompson, John Cargill. *The Boys' Dumas*. Cheadle Hulme: 1975, p. 24.

Editor's notebook

(Continued from Page 4)

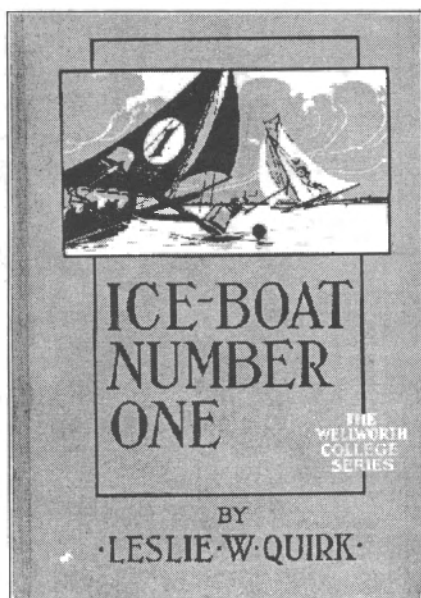
books under general consideration here (the teens through the early 1940s), Little, Brown used several means of identifying first editions. The most common through 1929 was corresponding dates on the title page and verso (copyright page).

A "Published (month, year)" notice on the copyright page also was used, taking over as the main means of identification from 1930 onward.

This is confirmed in a 1936 statement provided by the publishers, which says, "A Little, Brown, or Atlantic Monthly Press first edition can for the most part be identified by a single line on the copyright page giving the month and year of first publication. Each new printing of a book carries an additional line on the title page also giving the month and year."

By the late 1980s, the Little, Brown copyright page contained a stated first edition line as well as a descending number system. In a statement taken off the www.littlebrown.com Internet site: "On the copyright page of books, "First edition" means that this is the first time the book has been published. The numbers below that counting down from 10 indicate the number of the current printing, identified by the lowest number. For example, if a book carries the line "first edition" and the numbers below are 10 9 8 7, that indicates the seventh printing of the first edition."

Prominent series and authors: Among the most notable are the **Black Eagle Patrol Series** and **Wellworth College Series** by Leslie W. Quirk; the **Old Deerfield Series** and **Young Puritans Series** by Mary P. Wells Smith; the **Invention Series** by Sara Ware Bassett; the **Young Captains of Industry Series** by Hollis Godfrey; the **Donald Kirk Series** by Edward M. Woolley; and reprint titles (from Baker and Taylor originals) as well as a first edition (*Skippy Bedelle*) in the **Lawrenceville Stories** by Owen Johnson.



David McKay, Publisher, Philadelphia

McKay offered several of the most elusive Alger titles (including *Dean Dunham*, *Mark Stanton*, *Ned Newton*, *Walter Griffith*, etc.) as part of the 14 Alger titles appearing in McKay's **Boys' Own Library**. This was a publisher's series picked up in 1906 from Street & Smith/Federal Book Co.

Usual identification method: In a 1928 statement, McKay says: "There isn't any way you could identify the first edition of our books." This is known to have been the case until the late 1940s. In a 1988 statement, the company says: "'First printing' will appear on the copyright page of a first edition book."

Prominent series and authors: The **Boys' Own Library**, as already mentioned, was the most prominent, and it included sub-series like the 28-volume **Frank Merriwell Series** by "Burt L. Standish" (Gilbert Patten), the **Rockspur Athletic Series** by Patten; the **Ranch and Range Series** by St. George Rathborne, plus books by Edward Ellis, William Murray Graydon, James Otis, Edward Stratemeyer and others. Other series published by McKay were the **Clif Stirling Series** by Gilbert Patten, and more recently, the **Bronc Burnett Series** by Wilfred McCormick. Another popular publishers' series was the 34-volume **Boys of Liberty Library**, which like the **Boys' Own Library**, reprinted in hard-cover many titles previously appearing in Street & Smith's soft-cover **Medal Library** and **New Medal Library**.

The Mershon Co., New York

This publisher is best known for its relationship with Edward Stratemeyer, whose early titles in the **Rover Boys Series** were published by Mershon, as well as Stratemeyer-controlled books like *Malcolm the Waterboy* (see John Dizer's article on Page 13).

Mershon also was a reprint publisher of more than two dozen Alger titles, as well as the first-edition publisher of six of the Stratemeyer-Alger "completions": *Falling in With Fortune*; *Jerry, the Backwoods Boy*; *Lost at Sea*; *Nelson the Newsboy*; *Out for Business* and *Young Captain Jack*.

Usual identification method: Mershon did not identify its first editions. Knowledgeable collectors can identify the first editions (such as the Stratemeyer-Algers after consulting the Bennett or Gardner bibliographies) by examining the advertisements in the rear of the books as well as the number of titles in the subject series listed on the copyright page.

Prominent series and authors: In addition to the **Rover Boys**, the early first volumes in such Stratemeyer-owned series as the **Ralph of the Railroad Series**, **Putnam Hall Series** and **Flag of Freedom Series** appeared in Mershon editions before subsequently being published by such houses as Stitt, Chatterton-Peck and Grosset & Dunlap. Mershon also reprinted books by many other authors, including G.A. Henty.

(To be continued next issue.)

Constitution and Bylaws of the Horatio Alger Society

Part I: Constitution

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Horatio Alger Society, organized at Mendota, Illinois on May 22, 1965. The name of the registered agent and his/her office location shall be determined by the Society's Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purposes of the Horatio Alger Society are:

A. To study, analyze and promote interest in the philosophy primarily of Horatio Alger, Jr. and other authors whose stories for young readers embrace the concept that success is earned and character is developed by following principles of honesty, hard work, integrity, industry and good sportsmanship.

B. To make annual awards to individuals and organizations.

C. To produce publications exchanging information among its members.

D. To implement an Estate Service.

E. To convene meetings for the purpose of conducting Society business and sharing information.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. There shall be three classes of membership in the Horatio Alger Society.

A. Regular Membership: Any person interested in the writings of stories for young readers by Horatio Alger, Jr. or other authors may, upon proper application and payment of appropriate dues to the Executive Director, become a regular member.

B. Sustaining Membership: Any person, corporation or organization interested in the writings of stories for young readers by Horatio Alger, Jr. or other authors, may, upon proper application and payment of appropriate dues to the Executive Director, become a Sustaining Member and is thereby offered the opportunity to provide financial support to the Society.

C. Life Membership: Any person, corporation or organization interested in the writings of stories for young readers by Horatio Alger, Jr. or other authors may, upon proper application and payment of appropriate dues to the Executive Director, become a Life member.

D. A schedule of dues shall be in the By-laws.

Section 2. The benefits and obligations of these memberships shall be identical as set forth in this Constitution and set of By-laws.

Section 3. Although each member is an integral part of the Horatio Alger Society, it is recognized that the termination of membership of certain members may be necessary for the good of the Society as a whole. Partial refunds

of dues for early termination of membership are not provided. Termination of membership may take place in the following ways:

A. For non-payment of dues.

B. In response to a written request by a person or his/her custodian concerning his/her own membership. This could be an option for those who are mentally or physically incapable of a continuing membership and whose custodian advises the Society.

C. As the result of membership termination actions taken by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Membership shall be on a yearly basis to start from the time dues are received.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section 1. There should be one Annual Convention which shall be held between May and October of each year and should include one Annual Meeting and a meeting of the Board of Directors. Other Board meetings may be called by a majority of the officers.

Section 2. The purpose of the Annual Meeting shall be as follows:

A. To elect and install officers for the following year.

B. To receive reports from the officers and committee Chairpersons.

C. To present Horatio Alger Society Awards.

D. To conduct Horatio Alger Society Estate Service or other auctions.

E. To discuss any other matters pertaining to the Society.

F. To inform the membership at large of the financial status of the Society.

Section 3. At all meetings of the Society, Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters not specifically covered in this Constitution and set of By-laws.

ARTICLE V: VOTING

Section 1. Only individual members in good standing (current dues paid) and in attendance at the Annual Meeting shall be entitled to vote on any measures brought before the Society.

Section 2. In the election of Officers, the candidate receiving the largest number of votes for any given office shall be declared elected.

Section 3. All matters involving the policies of the Society, selection of the convention site, amendments to the Constitution and By-laws and election of Officers shall be submitted to, and acted upon at the Annual Meeting or by a mail-in ballot of the full membership. Board members may, at their discretion, discuss any of the above prior to a vote

being taken.

Section 4. Amendments:

A. A proposed Constitutional amendment or change in the By-laws must be presented in writing to the President. The president, after concurrence by the Board of Directors, may decide that said amendment or change is frivolous or not appropriate to be presented for a vote.

B. If determined appropriate, the membership shall be provided through *Newsboy* with a written copy of the proposed Constitution or By-law amendment at least 30 days prior to a vote on the proposed change.

C. Changes in the Constitution of the Society require a 2/3 majority vote of members in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

D. Changes in the By-laws of the Society require a simple majority of members in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS AND STAFF

Section 1. The Officers, who make up the Board of Directors of the Horatio Alger Society, shall be elected and consist of the following:

- A.** President
- B.** Vice President
- C.** Treasurer
- D.** Directors (9)

Section 2. Persons to fill the Staff Positions of the Horatio Alger Society are appointed by the Board of Directors. Staff positions are:

- A.** Executive Director
- B.** Editor of *Newsboy*
- C.** Historian

ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICE HOLDERS

Section 1. The President shall perform the usual duties of such office and shall serve a two-year term. The President also shall:

- A.** Preside at the Annual Meeting
- B.** Approve activities which will be eligible for reimbursement up to a certain limit set by the Board of Directors.
- C.** Recommend to the Board of Directors candidates for the three staff positions who shall serve three-year (3-year) terms.
- D.** Appoint:
 1. A Chairperson and two members of the *Nominating Committee*.
 2. A Chairperson of the *Newsboy Award Committee*.
 3. A Chairperson of the *Carl Hartmann Luck and Pluck Award Committee*.
 4. A member to help him/her choose a recipient for the *Dick Seddon Award*.
 5. The above persons should be instructed by the President and the office holders as to the guidelines which are

customary for these awards and responsibilities.

E. Appoint members to, and create, ad hoc committees he/she feels are needed.

F. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

G. Secure written site proposals for upcoming Annual Conventions and present those received to the Board of Directors which shall make a site recommendation to the membership for vote at the Annual Meeting.

H. Decide, with the Executive Director, qualifiers for the "100 Club" Award.

I. Receive and disseminate written amendments to the Constitution and By-laws.

Section 2. The Vice-President serves a two-year term, co-terminous with the President and shall:

A. Aid and assist the President in any way possible.

B. Assume the office of President during his/her absence, or at his/her written request. (or in the event of his/her death/incapacitation).

C. Be Chairperson of a Membership Committee and appoint other members to the Committee as he/she deems appropriate.

Section 3. The Treasurer shall serve for a two-year term. If the Treasurer is unable to sign checks for any reason, an alternate shall be appointed by the President. The Treasurer shall:

A. Keep a record of all funds received and funds paid out by the Society.

B. Balance the books and prepare a written financial report for the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting.

C. Arrange the financial reports so as to show separately the transactions of each fiscal year. The fiscal year shall run from May 1 to April 30. Said financial reports should be distributed to the membership at the annual meeting if it is feasible. If it is not feasible these reports should be included in *Newsboy*.

D. Set up such depository bank accounts he/she feels required for the convenience of those persons such as Editor of *Newsboy*, who will have occasion to draw on such accounts.

E. Make disbursements by check as reimbursements to persons authorized, by either the Board of Directors or the President, to make expenditures on behalf of the Society out of personal funds. A request for such reimbursement shall include an invoice properly approved by the person responsible for the expenditures and a reference citing the specific authorization.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and nine (9) Directors, each of whom has one vote. The immediate Past President shall be a non-voting member of the Board for one year. Each of the Nine (9) Directors, shall serve three (3) year terms, to be staggered in three year groupings. The Board shall:

A. Uphold the Constitution and By-laws of this Society and manage the day-to-day business of the Society such as:

1. Establishing written guidelines for the Estate

Service, for the hosting of Annual Conventions, for the specific duties of the Executive Director, Editor and Convention Host, for the explicit procedures for termination of membership and for qualifying for the 100 Club. He/she shall update such guidelines as changes occur publicizing them in *Newsboy*.

2. Appointing persons to staff positions guided by recommendations from the President.

3. Deciding any matters pertaining to the incorporation of the Society.

4. Making recommendations to the members at the Annual Meeting such as the location of future convention sites.

5. Approving Society activity which will be eligible for reimbursement.

6. Deciding the level of honorarium to be given annually to the Executive Director and Editor.

7. Meet at the Annual Convention prior to the Annual Meeting. Additional meetings of the Board may be called by request of a majority of the Board.

Section 5. The Executive Director is not an officer of the Society and has no vote on the Board of Directors. The duties of the Executive Director, under direction of the Board of Directors, shall be as follows:

A. Keep minutes of the Annual Meeting and of any other meetings of the Society.

B. Sign, countersign or attest all official papers and perform the usual duties of an Executive Director. He/she shall also be a cosigner on all Society bank accounts.

C. Conduct Society business such as completing tax returns, developing draft guidelines, handling membership applications and dues, ordering supplies and, with the President, decide qualifiers for the 100 Club.

D. Revise the Constitution and By-laws when amended, print in *Newsboy*, and distribute them to all members within three months of the Annual Meeting.

E. Ensure any proposed Constitution and By-law amendments are published in *Newsboy* prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. An Historian may be appointed by the Board of Directors. He/she is not an officer of the Society and has no vote on the Board of Directors. The duties of the Historian shall be as follows:

A. Compile and keep a scrapbook of newspaper clippings, photographs, etc. that relate to Horatio Alger, Jr. and/or the Horatio Alger Society. This/these will be on display at all Annual Meetings and shall be permanently housed at the Horatio Alger Repository at Northern Illinois University.

B. Keep the Horatio Alger Society history up to date.

C. Conduct research as deemed necessary by the President or Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII: STANDING COMMITTEES

The standing committees of the Society and their duties shall be as follows:

Section 1. The *Editorial Committee* for *Newsboy* shall consist of the *Newsboy* Editor, and such other members as the Editor may choose.

Section 2. The *Membership Committee* shall be headed by the Vice-President as Chairperson. He/she may appoint such other Society members as he/she deems necessary. The function of the *Membership Committee* shall be:

A. To increase the membership of the Society.

B. To secure adequate publicity for the Society.

C. To generally promote good public relations.

D. To promote interest in Horatio Alger, Jr. and other authors of books written for young readers.

Section 3. The *Nominating Committee* shall consist of three Society members appointed by the President, one of which shall be designated as Chairperson. This Committee shall present to the Annual Meeting for vote a slate of candidates for nomination to fill all available Society elective positions.

Section 4. The *Strive and Succeed Award Committee* shall consist of the Annual Meeting Host and other members or non-members of the Society as the Host deems necessary. Their task shall be to select a high school student to receive the *Strive and Succeed Award* who conforms to the standards described by Horatio Alger, Jr. and should be a typical Alger Hero.

Section 5. The *Newsboy Award Committee* shall consist of a Society member appointed by the President as Chairperson who then may choose two other members for the committee. The *Newsboy Award Committee* may select that person, (not necessarily a member of the Society), or organization that has done the most to add to the image of Horatio Alger, Jr.

Section 6. The *Carl Hartmann Luck and Pluck Award Committee* shall consist of a Society member appointed by the President as Chairperson who then may choose two other members for the committee. The *Carl Hartmann Luck and Pluck Award Committee* may select that member of the Society who served the Society in an outstanding manner during the past year.

Section 7. The *Richard Seddon Award Committee* shall consist of the President and any other person he/she may choose. The *Richard Seddon Award Committee* may select that member of the Society who best emulates the qualities and comradeship possessed by Dick Seddon, and so admired by those who knew him.

ARTICLE IX: AD HOC COMMITTEES

For the length of his/her term, the President may create ad hoc committees to assist in addressing specific issues of concern to the Society.

ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

In the event of the dissolution of the Horatio Alger Society, all Society-owned property (excluding records, correspondence, original writings, computer files, past cop-

ies of *Newsboy* and any other such ephemera) will be disposed of by the Board of Directors for cash within three months of the final decision by the Board to dissolve. Such cash will then be given to the Horatio Alger Repository at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois, for use in the acquisition of new repository materials. Immediately upon dissolution of the Society, the excluded ephemera materials noted herein shall become the property of the Horatio Alger Repository.

(End of Constitutional Provisions)

Part II: By-Laws

ARTICLE I: INCORPORATION

Section 1. The Horatio Alger Society is incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois as recorded in La Salle County, Certificate No. 1278, dated July 27, 1965.

Section 2. The Registered Office of the Horatio Alger Society is located at 820 North County Line Rd., Hinsdale, Illinois and its registered agent is John R. Juvinal of the same address.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. The dues schedule for the three classes of membership are:

A. Regular Membership is \$25 (\$20 for seniors, age 65 or older) per year.

B. Sustaining Membership is \$50 per year

C. Life Membership is twenty (20) times the regular annual dues if paid with the application or twenty-two (22) times the regular annual dues if paid in two annual installments.

Section 2. A Society roster and other items of interest to Society members may be printed and circulated to the membership, as income permits.

Section 3. The "100 Club": Each member determined by the Executive Director and President to meet the requirements of the 100 Club shall receive a framed Certificate of Acknowledgment from the Society. The Board of Directors shall establish guidelines for this award.

ARTICLE III: MEETINGS

Section 1. The Society will strive to hold its Annual Convention in a different location in North America each year in order to make it more accessible to a greater portion of the membership and to provide an opportunity for different members to host.

Section 2. A potential volunteer member to host the next Annual Convention shall either attend the meeting at which the choice of the site is to be made and confirm their written bid intention to attendees or, if absent at that meeting, shall be contacted directly by the President during that meeting to confirm his/her willingness to host.

Section 3. The designated host has primary responsibility for developing the agenda and making appropriate arrangements for the Annual Convention following guidelines estab-

lished by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall decide the number, auctioneer, type and financial arrangements for any auctions or sales to be held at the Annual Convention. The host shall assure space and agenda time is provided for such auctions or sales.

Section 5. There are two types of auctions the Society may conduct at its Annual Convention:

A. The "Society Auction" which is usually held at the Annual Meeting as a fund-raiser. One hundred per cent of the proceeds from this auction go into the Society's treasury.

B. Commission auctions are held at different times during the Annual Convention. Commissions to the Society for these auctions are a percentage of the gross revenues for any specific consignment as follows: from \$1 to \$2,499 = 20%; from \$2,500 to \$4,999 = 15%; and in excess of \$5,000 = 10%. Commissions charged for auctions held under the Society's Estate Service are the same as other commission auctions.

Section 6. The Society is committed to implementing an Estate Service which provides a vehicle for the disposal of book collection items contained in the estate of a member. The Board of Directors shall establish written guidelines detailing Estate Service procedures.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND STAFF

Section 1. Presidential appointments shall serve for the length of the President's term.

Section 2. Compensation received by any officer or staff person consists of reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in the conduct of official Society business as approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. An honorarium, in appreciation for services rendered, shall be given to the Executive Director and *Newsboy* Editor, the specific amount of which is to be determined by the Board of Directors and is dependent upon the Society's financial conditions.

ARTICLE V: DUTIES OF OFFICE HOLDERS

Section 1. The Executive Director may appoint another member to be responsible for keeping minutes of any official meeting.

Section 2. Persons authorized by the President and Board of Directors to make miscellaneous expenditures for the Society out of personal funds may be reimbursed upon receipt of an invoice properly approved by the person responsible for the expenditure.

Section 3. The Editor of *Newsboy* shall:

A. Produce a magazine (called *Newsboy*) to be devoted to the study of Horatio Alger, Jr. and other authors of books for young readers, their lives, works, and influence on the culture of America

B. Produce a minimum of six issues of *Newsboy* per year.

C. **Newsboy** coverage may, in addition to Horatio Alger, Jr., include a variety of authors of juvenile books.

D. Mail **Newsboy** by first class mail.

E. Accept paid advertisements, the proceeds of which go into the Society's treasury.

Section 4. The Board of Directors may develop and implement advertising programs to publicize the Society's function and activities and may develop resolutions to recognize or commemorate special individuals or events. Any proceeds realized from these programs shall be deposited into the Society's treasury.

Section 5. The Board of Directors, on behalf of the Horatio Alger Society, recognizes the Horatio Alger Repository at Northern Illinois University as the Society's official repository for all materials relating to, about and written by, Horatio Alger, Jr. Society members are encouraged to provide copies of books written by Horatio Alger, Jr. and other related Alger items to the Repository. The Society shall be a member of the Friends of the Northern Illinois University Libraries upon payment of the annual fee in effect at that time.

Section 6. The Board of Directors, on behalf of the Horatio

Alger Society, recognizes and supports in any way it can, the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans.

ARTICLE VI: STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Chairman of any standing or ad hoc committee shall have the power to replace any member of his/her committee who does not satisfactorily perform the duties required of him/her.

Section 2. As a matter of practice and custom, the Chairperson of the *Newsboy Award* and the *Carl Hartmann Luck and Pluck Award* committees may be the winner of that specific award the previous year.

Section 3. The Executive Director shall develop a system for Board of Directors approval to enable members to contribute to the annual *Strive and Succeed Award*.

ARTICLE VII: AD HOC COMMITTEES

The President shall assure that any ad hoc committee is working as intended and will produce results as expected. The President shall report the activity of his/her ad hoc committees at the Annual Meeting.

(End of By-Laws)

Ed Mattson (PF-067) accepts the Newsboy Award on behalf of himself and Tom Davis (PF-976) during the annual banquet at the 2000 H.A.S. convention in West Chester, Pa.

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf



Brad Chase (PF-412) receives the President's Award from outgoing H.A.S. President Arthur Young (PF-941) during the annual banquet.

Photo by Doug Fleming

Convention flashback

Lee Allen (PF-977) enjoys his visit to the children's book room at Baldwin's Book Barn in West Chester, Pa. Photo by Jerry Friedland



Doug Fleming (PF-899), left, who will host the 2001 H.A.S. convention in Ottawa, Canada, gets together with director Ralph Carlson following Carlson's slide presentation on the influences of Alger in today's business and advertising community.

Photo by Bernie Biberdorf

Milt Ehlert (PF-702), left, and Chris DeHaan (PF-773) visit the registration desk at the Holiday Inn of West Chester on the opening day of the 2000 H.A.S. convention.

Photo by Jerry Friedland

