

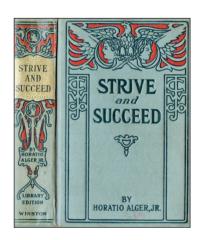
VOLUME LVIII

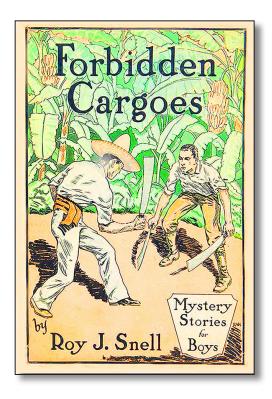
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2020

NUMBER 1

Strive and Succeed Award convention plans underway

-- See Page 3





The spirit of adventure

-- Conclusion, see Page 11

Bales set to retire from UMW in July

-- See Page 3

President's column

Good morning from Houston,

This has been a typical winter with one day in the 40s and the next day in the 70s. I guess complaining would not be appropriate considering the weather that the northern readers of this column have to endure.

It looks like the upcoming convention is going to be a special one with great guest speakers and a powerful location. I always like going to Pennsylvania. Two of my children attended college in the area. My son went to Villanova Law School and one of my daughters attended (along with a bundle of my cash) Lehigh. Fortunately, the graduations are long since over and I continue to wait by the mailbox (old fashioned) for the monthly support checks that they said they would send to me.

Philadelphia, of course, has a great book tradition. I have given several talks to the Philobiblon Club. It was founded in 1893 and has been going strong ever since. They have monthly meetings with book-related talks. I have also enjoyed visiting the Free Library of Philadelphia. Their collection of rare books is quite impressive. I was able to find a number of one-of-a-kind Altemus & Co. printings. It's a fascinating place to check out.

I have been diligently working on the 19th century bibliography (http://19thcenturyjuvenileseries.com/). The range of series/libraries for children/juveniles always amazes me. Although this variety should not be a surprise considering that reading was a major part of life in that era. With the exception for time travelers, there was no radio, television or internet.

Especially of interest to me are the oversized books which featured numerous illustrations. Most of the

most popular travelogue series were published in this large size. The major publishers noted these books to be very profitable. The 18 Zig Zag books by Hezekiah Butterworth (Example 1) were probably the most well-known.

Beautiful cloth bound books along (Continued on Page 6) **Example 1**



HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

To further the philosophy of Horatio Alger, Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive & Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes. Our members conduct research and provide scholarship on the life of Horatio Alger, Jr., his works and influence on the culture of America. The Horatio Alger Society embraces collectors and enthusiasts of all juvenile literature, including boys' and girls' series books, pulps and dime novels.

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Newsboy ad rates: Full page, \$32.00; one-half page, \$17.00; onequarter 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, 1004 School St., Shelbyville, IN 46176.

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 advertisements or "Letters to the Editor" to Newsboy editor William R. Gowen (PF-706) at 23726 N. Overhill Dr., Lake Zurich, IL 60047. E-mail: hasnewsboy@aol.com

'Gettysburg Campaign' — Preview IV

Strive and Succeed Award plans underway

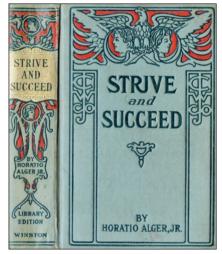
By Robert D. Eastlack (PF-557)

When I agreed to host this year's convention, Barry Schoenborn graciously shared with me a document titled "Guidelines for Horatio Alger Society Convention Hosts." Part of my preparation included doing something with the following instruction:

The Strive & Succeed Award should be given on Friday night with the recipient and guests (parents, siblings, guidance counselor, etc) present at the expense of the society. H.A.S. awards can be given Friday night or Saturday night.

"The Strive & Succeed Award is generally given to a local high school

student selected by the convention host with the assistance of the school principal or guidance counselor. The boy or girl should be a typical Alger hero who has overcome some obstacle or adversity in life. The recipient is usually college-bound but that is not mandatory. The cash stipend is \$500 (often we'll give more) awarded to one student only. The student will also receive a certificate and a reprint copy of Strive & Succeed. The recipient will also receive a complimentary subscription to Newsboy for one year."



Since the convention will be held in Gettysburg (90 minutes from my home) I asked Carolyn Sautter (Director of Specials Collections and College Archives at Gerrysburg College's Musselman Library) if she and her staff could solicit and process possible applicants. I shared with her a possible prospectus:

Would you be interested in receiving up to \$1,000 for writing an essay? The Horatio Alger Society's "Strive and Succeed" Award may be the answer.

Founded in 1961 by Forrest Campbell and Kenneth B. Butler, the Horatio Alger

Society (H.A.S.) was incorporated at Mendota, Illinois in 1965 as a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

Originally a specialist organization for Alger collectors, the H.A.S. has evolved in its five decades of existence as collectors' interests have broadened. The H.A.S. now embraces collectors and enthusiasts of all juvenile literature, including boys' and girls' series books, pulps, and dime novels.

The **Strive and Succeed Award** is presented at their (Continued on Page 4)

Cubs fan, researcher Bales to retire from UMW

By Cindy Brya School of Information Sciences University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Editor's note: Cindy Brya is the Associate Director for Communications at the School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Horatio Alger Society member Jack Bales, PF-258, received his master's degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois, and Cindy contacted Jack to write a profile story for the iSchool website. The following article, published online on February 7, is that story.



As baseball teams gear up for spring training this month, Jack Bales (MS'74) will begin another season of following — and researching — the Chicago Cubs, a team whose history he knows well. Bales, a reference and humanities librarian at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, combined his expert



Jack Bales

research skills and interest in the Cubs to author a book on the team's early history. His book, Before They Were Cubs: The Early Years of Chicago's First Professional Team, was published last spring by Mc-Farland & Company.

"It took years of research and writing (I have a full-time job), and since some of the newspapers I needed to consult are not available online, I spent several years going

through microfilm page by page and year by year," Bales said. "I would spend every Christmas vacation camped out by the library's microfilm reader-printers. One of my

(Continued on Page 5)

Editor's notebook.

As winter slowly loses its grip on the North Central states, our thoughts continue to point toward the 2020 convention, "Gettysburg Campaign." In this issue we enclose the Schedule of Events for the weekend of June 4-7, hosted by Bob Eastlack (PF-557) and Gettysburg College. Also enclosed is another copy of the official registration form, also sent in the last **Newsboy**.

Also, note the registration deadline of **April 30, 2020**. Bob needs your completed form by that date so he can continue his overall planning. We're only about a month away from that date, so don't forget!

Eastlack's letter to the editor on Page 10 announces that we have been provided for consignment the Alger collection of longtime member Jim Thorp of Nashua, New Hampshire, the host for our 1984 convention. This collection contains more than 1,000 items, to be offered singly or in multiple-book lots, along with a large number of Oliver Optic books, etc. More detailed information

will become available, and there remains a possibility we may have to hold over part of the collection until the 2021 convention due to time limitations. We'll just have to see how this all plays out on Friday afternoon June 5.

A very rare jacket: The dust jacket depicted on this page is that for the second title in the



two-volume World War I Bob Thorpe aviation series by Austin Gillette Parker, writing under the pen name "Austin Bishop." One of the reasons the books are so scarce is that Harcourt, Brace and Howe, issued very few series books and sold them at a higher price.

Longtime H.A.S. member David Kirk Vaughan (PF-832) wrote the definitive article for the July-August 2015 **Newsboy** on Parker and this series, including his WWI flying experiences for the U.S.in France and Italy. The two books are *Bob Thorpe*, *Sky Fighter in the Lafayette Flying Corps* (1919) and *Bob Thorpe*, *Sky Fighter in Italy* (1920).

A few months ago I bid on this book on eBay but lost out, but I saved this illustration from that listing in order to share it with our readers due to its scarcity.

Convention preview: 2020 *S&S Award* plans

(Continued from Page 3)

annual convention, usually in the amount of \$1,000. The 2020 Convention will be held in Gettysburg, PA. The presentation will take place on Friday, June 5th between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm at General Pickett's Buffet. The award recipient may invite two guests to attend. In addition to the monetary award, the recipient will also receive a certificate and a reprint copy of Strive and Succeed written by Horatio Alger, Jr.. The recipient will also receive a complimentary subscription to Newsboy for one year.

Here is what you need to do:

- 1. Submit an essay, no more than two type written pages that describes who you are, why you think you should be chosen, your goals for the next five years and how you plan to attain them.
- 2. Provide a facial picture for publicity purposes. A committee will review all applicants and notify the winner by February 2020.

After some discussion Carolyn accepted the responsibility for carrying out this task. She noted that the expectation for a picture could requested from the chosen applicant instead of from everyone. She informed me that she would solicit applicants from the Greater Gettysburg School District as well as from students at the college. It was agreed that her committee would narrow the selection down to three finalists and that I would make the final choice.

I accepted responsibility for locating and purchasing a reprinted copy of Horatio Alger's *Strive and Succeed*. I also included the meal costs for the award winner and his/her guests in my calculations for the total cost of the convention.

My plan is to share with everyone the winning essay in a future **Newsboy**.

MEMBERSHIP

New member

Kenneth Alger (PF-1147) 26 Taylor Drive Farmingdale, NY 11735 (631) 553-0046

Email: mytune1@yahoo.com

Mini-conventions: or, 'The Virginians'

By Jack Bales (PF-258)

Several Virginia Horatio Alger Society members have begun holding "mini-conventions" at their homes, combining good conversation with book perusing, occasional book buying, and, of course, good eating! I suppose it all began with Rob Kasper in Richmond, who at various times has visited with Jeff Looney (Charlottesville) and me (Fredericksburg). It only made sense to broaden our horizons a bit, and we have been taking turns hosting the others at our respective homes.

In Richmond, for example, we pored over Rob's huge Alger collection, well displayed behind numerous barrister bookcases in his condominium on the James River. And yes, I have seen *The Disagreeable Woman, Timothy Crump's Ward*, and umpteen Loring first editions, including *Ragged Dick*. We went book hunting at a few of Richmond's finest used bookstores, and I picked up a very nice Grosset & Dunlap copy of Booth Tarkington's *Penrod Jashber* (1929), with gorgeous period dust jacket, to go along with my dust jacketed G & D copies of Tarkington's *Penrod, Penrod and Sam*, and *Seventeen*. We then had a wonderful seafood lunch overlooking the water at a Richmond restaurant I have grown to like very much.

Jeff and his wife, Judy, hosted us at their home in Charlottesville on February 1, and an all-you-can-eat breakfast of homemade waffles and fresh raspberries and blueberries was followed by much book conversation. Jeff has often commented that he is not an Alger collector, but his other series book interests far eclipse



A gathering of Partic'lar Friends, from left: Jack Bales, Rob Kasper and Jeff Looney.

Photo courtesy of Jack Bales

many an Alger collection. I was truly staggered by the bookcases that seem to go on forever, packed with dozens of book series (including a complete set of Ralph Henry Barbour, with some desirable signed copies). I was also struck by all the dust jackets on his books!

Both Jeff and Rob commented that some of these vol-(Continued on Page 8)

Bales to retire from UMW

(Continued from Page 3)

colleagues still remembers how she came in one day when I wasn't there and noticed my CD player, sweater, water bottle, snacks — and even my bedroom slippers — all neatly arranged beside reels of microfilm."

He estimates around two thousand primary sources were used and cited in his book.

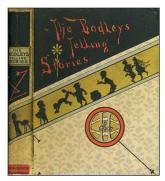
In 2017, Bales received the McFarland-SABR Baseball Research Award from the Society for American Baseball Research for his article, "The Show Girl and the Shortstop: The Strange Saga of Violet Popovich and Her Shooting of Cub Billy Jurges," which he is now expanding into

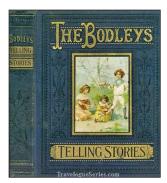
a small book. The award "honors the best articles on baseball history or biography completed or published during the preceding calendar year."

He will have more time to work on his next book after July 24, when he will retire from UMW after 40 years as a reference and humanities librarian. According to Bales, his proudest accomplishment as a librarian is the impact he has made on students, instilling in them a love of research and writing.

"A few months ago a student came by my office and said, 'My father knew you when he was a student here,' and she told me his name. I immediately replied, 'Not only do I remember your father, but I remember that he wrote a major history paper on President Gerald Ford.' I think that surprised her! A few days later, her father came in to

(Continued on Page 8)





Example 2

Example 3

President's column

(Continued from Page 2)

with colorfully illustrated board books were published by Estes & Lauriat (and later by Dana Estes & Co.) beginning in 1879 and yearly thereafter into the 1890s.

Less well known but still big sellers were the Bodley Books by Horace Scudder (Examples 2 and 3). The five books were published initially beginning in 1875 by Hurd & Houghton, followed by Houghton Osgood & Co. and Houghton, Miflin and Company. These books were printed in several formats.

The Young Nimrods by Thomas W. Knox was a two book series (1881-1882) published by Harper & Brothers (Example 4). I suppose that being called a "nimrod" is not a compliment but besides meaning "an inept person" the word also means "a skillful hunter."

D. Lothrop & Co. published several travelogue series but the main one was the five-volume **Family Flight Series** (1881-1886) by Rev. E. E. Hale and Miss Susan Hale (Example 5). Printed in cloth and boards, these editions were very popular, being reprinted numerous times.

There are numerous others, including the **Three Vassar Girls Series** 11 volumes between 1883 and 1895 (Examples 6 and 7); and the **Witch Winnie Series** (nine volumes between 1889-1898), both by Elizabeth Champney. The **Our Young Folks Series** by James McCabe, **Our Boys Series** by James French (Example 8), **Rip Van Winkle's Travels** by D. C. Eddy, the **Knockabout Series** by C. A. Stephens, and **Young Americans in Japan** by Edward Greey (Example 9) are just a few other examples.

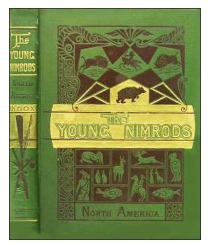
My favorite travelogue series (because it reminds me of so many people I have dealt with over the years) is the **Lighthouse Children** by Mary Bradford Crowninshield. The second book is called *The Ignoramuses*, discussed in an earlier column (January-February 2019). The title itself explains why I like it.

Of course, Lee & Shepard published the series that is most suited to our times. The **Ingersoll Lockwood Wonder Books** is a four volume series also called the.**Baron Trump Series**. (Examples 10-12). For some inexplicable reason these books now are hard to find and have become fairly expensive. They are fantasies with numerous illustrations. Not wishing to make my thoughts about this series into a political commentary,

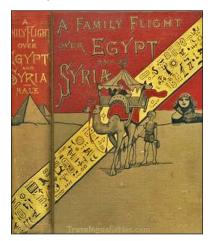
let it suffice to say that many of the characters and locales in the books do seem to be in the daily news from Washington. There is Queen Galaxa, Trump's faithful dog Bulger, the Land of the Transparent Folk, Master Cold Soul, the learned Barrel Brow and many, many more.

And finally, the title of Example 11 — Baron Trump's Marvellous Underground Journey, has different meanings to different folks depending upon their political viewpoints. Appreciate the similarities between these books and the adventures in the Oz volumes.

Example 12 is one of the numerous illustrations in this book. I suspect



Example 4

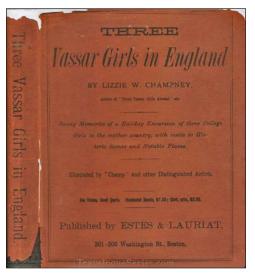


Example 5

Baron Trump's dunce cap is really just headgear of the times — or maybe an omen?

Well, that is it from Houston. I hope that the new year has had a wonderful beginning for you and that 2020 will be a happy and healthy one.

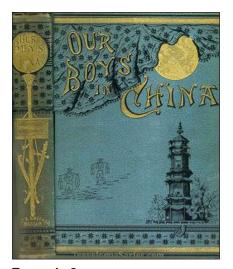
Your Partic'lar Friend, Cary Sternick (PF-933) 26 Chestnut Hill Ct. The Woodlands, TX 77380 (713) 444-3181 Email: css3@mac.com



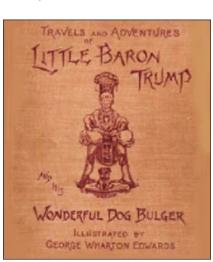
Example 6



Example 7



Example 8



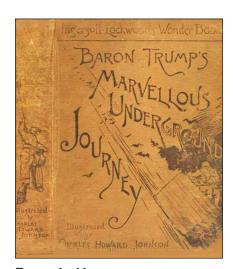
Example 12



Example 9

IN

IN JAPAI



YOUNG AMERICANST

Example 11

Example 10

'The Virginians'

(Continued from Page 5)

umes are extremely difficult to find even without dust jackets, and it's probably safe to assume that collectors won't be turning up many (any?) others without spending a small fortune. I am not a knowledgeable series book collector and I had never heard of one book that Jeff has: The White Ribbon Boys of Chester, by Raymond Sperry, Jr. This is, I found out, the deservedly obscure, only volume of a projected temperance series by the Stratemeyer Syndicate, which features three boys who take on tavern owners and help the residents of the city of Chester get sober. [Editor's note: "Raymond Sperry" is a Syndicate pseudonym; the actual author of this book was W. Bert Foster].

Another prominent author in Jeff's collection is Stephen W. Meader. Jeff showed us several volumes of the writer's diaries that he had purchased from a woman who had bought an old suitcase at an estate sale and had found the diaries in them. I flipped open one of the books and started reading, and immediately saw a reference to Meader's visit to Fredericksburg and subsequent meeting with one "Chancellor Simpson." I told Jeff that that referred to Chancellor Grellet C. Simpson, the president of Mary Washington College (I work in Simpson Library, named after him). Jeff said that Meader's daughter was a woman named Peggy and that she had taught French at Mary Washington. Sure, I said, that was Margaret Hoffman. Not only had I known her, but I had had dinner at her house many years ago.

Alas, my Horatio Alger collection is pretty well limited to several formats of Burt's Chimney Corner Series, most notably the Fisher Boy format. This is purely for nostalgic reasons, as decades ago I had purchased a couple of those from Alger Society cofounder Forrest Campbell, and I have always liked them as they are usually sturdily bound and the type font is pleasing to the eye.

I still have some notable books here and there, however (a complete set of David McCullough first editions, for example, each book warmly inscribed to me). I type the bibliographies for all of Jon Meacham's bestsellers (as one can see by each book's acknowledgments), and he has signed copies for me. In terms of series books, my first edition copy of West Point Plebe, the first volume in the Clint Lane West Point series by Colonel Red Reeder, is inscribed to Reeder's sister, Nardi Reeder Campion, to whom the book is dedicated and who is the co-author of his *The West Point Story* and *Bringing up* the Brass. I have a very nice collection of all four books in dust jackets, and also a copy of *Clint Lane in Korea*. I have a hard time remembering which of my books are signed, and when I was in Charlottesville, Jeff gave me numerous slips with "signed by author" printed at the top. They're marvelous!

During "Frank and Fearless in Fredericksburg" on November 23, we meandered around quite a few of the city's downtown book and antique stores before having lunch at one of my favorite restaurants. We were joined by Horatio Alger Society member Liane Houghtalin (PF-699), Professor of Classics at the University of Mary Washington. It was indeed a pleasant way to end another Alger Society mini-convention in Virginia!

Bales to retire from UMW

(Continued from Page 5)

talk to me and reminisce a bit," Bales said.

Bales realized he had a talent for research and writing as early as junior high school in Aurora, Illinois, when he wrote his first term paper. Working on that paper also piqued his interest in the field of library and information science. Later on, as an undergraduate English major at Illinois College, he worked in the college library.

After earning his MS/LIS degree from the University of Illinois, he worked briefly in the libraries at Eureka College and Illinois College before settling into the University of Mary Washington. He considers himself fortunate to be surrounded by "marvelous, wonderful colleagues," doing a job he loves.

In addition to working on his book, Bales plans to spend retirement visiting and traveling with his two grown children. For years, he and his family have enjoyed hiking together, especially in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Shenandoah National Park, a place where they plan to spend more time.

His advice to current students is to "find your passion — some overriding interest that gets you up in the morning, eager to face the day."

"It's been a great 40 years! I've always liked the research end of library work, so assisting students and faculty was tailor-made for me," he said.

When asked which he would enjoy more, watching the Cubs play or doing research on the team, Bales has to give it some thought.

"That's a tough question, as I really like doing my research. I suppose, though, I would have to come down on the side of watching them play," he said.

Horatio Alger, Jr. and The Yankee Blade

(Fifth in a Series)

Introduction: "Large Stories," published on 28 January 1854, may best be interpreted to mean "Tall Tales." It is the very slightest of material, a conversation is really all it amounts to: a dialogue between two individuals. There is nothing very remarkable about all of this and it simply provides us a few pleasant moments of reading pleasure.

Oliver Optic, Paul Creyton, Carl Cantab and many another of our band of heroes wrote extensive sketches for the Boston weeklies of the period. This material usually covered about two columns, and in the case of Optic many of these sketches were divided into three chapters. Oliver Optic's *In Doors And Out*, his second published book, was a collection of 29 such sketches, culled mainly from **The American Union** and **True Flag**. They are very entertaining and I have read some of them multiple times.

However, I consider Horatio Alger's "Carl Cantab" material for **The Yankee Blade** as simply fillers, often encompassing hardly more than half a column. The Cantab sketches for **The American Union** and **True Flag** were an altogether different case, often covering the requisite two columns with minimal plot development, as was often the case with these diverting stories.



A word here about Alger's choice of pseudonym. "Cantab," if you are unaware, is short for "Cantabridgensis," which denoted a graduate of the University of Cambridge in England. Alger was not a graduate from there but was certainly well versed in Classical Literature if not its literary allusions. Were we led to believe, then, that an English author was addressing an American audience? A member of the American Antiquarian Society who died as recently as April 22, 2017, was identified in his obituary as a "Cantab." Similarly, another relative term, "Oxon" and short for "Oxoniensis," classified a graduate of Oxford University.

May I be permitted an analogy? The term "Zurichiensis" could be adapted to another individual. Can you guess?

Peter C. Walther (PF-548) 5 February 2020

Humorous Sketches.

[Written for the Yankee Blade.]

LARGE STORIES.

BY CARL CANTAB

We have all heard of "fish stories," and it is generally understood that they are rather difficult to swallow. There are some, however, who have acquired such a facility in manufacturing them, that they deem it derogatory if they allow themselves to be surpassed in telling them.

Of this class were Jem B. and Joe P., two old cronies, who whilom flourished in a neighboring village.

They were seated in the village store one evening, when Jem, after a preparatory hem, designed to call the attention of the company, commenced as follows,--

"I say, boys, did I ever tell you what a time I had shooting pigeons over our house one night last winter?"

"No, no," said a chorus of voices. "Come, tell it!"

"You see," said the old man, "my old woman and I were seated around the fire . . . [illegible] in the kitchen,

when we heard a fluttering up above."

"What's that?" asked Jemima.

"I do not know," said I; "it sounds like pigeons."

"So I got my old musket, and charged it up pretty well, and pointing it up chimney, I found there was a screech and a crashing noise, and a dozen as plump pigeons as you could wish to see, fell upon the hearth. Two fell into the pot that was boiling over the fire, and we had them for breakfast next morning. We didn't have to buy any butcher's meat for a week afterwards."

"Ahem!" commented Joe, "that's pretty fair luck, but it isn't a circumstance to what happened to me once. I'll tell it, if you haint no objection."

"Go ahead, Joe, we are all anxious to hear you."

"Well, I'd been out hunting one afternoon — had dreadful luck — fired away all my shot, and hadn't brought down anything yet. I began to be discouraged, and was thinking of going home, when all at once a lot of robins, there were fifty of 'em, and all in a row, flew by.

"Here was a capital chance to shoot; but the worst of it was I had no shot. So I did the best I could. I put in the ramrod, and charged it up pretty well. I took aim and fired,

(Continued on Page 10)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bill:

I just completed cataloging over 1,000 items donated to this year's auction by Jim and Carole Thorp!

Jim is suffering from Altzheimer's. He and Carole will be moving to Michigan in the near future. The need to downsize led to a conversation with me, thanks to the referral from Brad Chase. Carole was told that the Society would receive 20 per cent of the first \$2,500 in sales and 15 per cent thereafter on any consignment at the auction. She insisted that they wanted to give the Society 25 per cent of the sales across the board.

Jim's collection includes over 900 Alger-related items. You might remember that Jim, along with Bob Sawyer, researched the Winstons. In addition to the Winstons in his collection, there are more than 100 small Hursts, over 30 first editions, and many volumes with dust jackets. The collection also offers more than 100 Oliver Optics.

I will share the Excel catalog with all who register for the convention. Please remember that registration closes on April 30th! Any person interested in the file who may wish to submit an absentee bid should contact me directly.

Sincerely, Bob Eastlack (PF-557) 2014 Walnut St. Lebanon, PA 17042

Email: eastlackrd@gmail.com

Editor's note: Additional information concerning the auction will be available as the convention approaches. Along with the books to be auctioned individually, additional items will be consolidated into lots as appropriate.

Good morning gentlemen, and happy 2020!

I just wanted to share my recent discovery of a 2nd mss. page by Oliver Optic. It had been held by **The Gallery of History/History for Sale** in Las Vegas, Nevada. To my surprise, curator Samantha Weeks said they had acquired it from a "to be unnamed" private dealer back in 1988! It appears to be from the

East Coast ... David J. Holmes Autographs maybe?? Ten years ago I wrote to you about my initial mss. find and, at that time, Peter Walther (PF-548) cited:

Apparently, then you did purchase an original mss. leaf of In School And Out. I am sure the thousand others as you suggest no longer exist, yet early on I would not be surprised if he asked Lee and Shepard to return all or at least parts of these early stories so that he could send them out as remembrances for those that requested keepsakes. I did not know of any mss. from In School And Out that have survived. Yours is the first. There may be others. Pages from Rich and Humble exist in three places:

The Athenaeum of the Minneapolis Public Library The Pierpont Morgan Library in New York

The Beinecke Library at Yale (Adams sent this page of his manuscript to a correspondent who requested it in 1885; it would seem he kept such pages of these novels lying around over the years and sent them out as favors when requested.)

You own the first such page in private hands that I know of. Hopefully others will surface in the coming years. If you wish page citations for Rich and Humble I will be happy to supply them.

The reason I included Peter's citation here is that this new mss. leaf also matches the source of the three holdings above as coming from page 196 of *Rich and Humble* of the Woodville Stories. It is on thin quality stationery and bears a faint embossing of a sailing ship in the upper right corner. It astounds me that this page had been available for sale for over 30 years ... and it was just luck that I found it even now. They accepted my slightly reduced offer of \$300. if you were wondering. History for Sale has large holdings that are easily searched ...unfortunately, nothing by Horatio Alger but there are several items by his cousin Russell that are available.

May we all have such luck and good fortune in the coming year.

Sincerely,
Bob Petitto (PF-1086)
874 Papoose Court
Carol Stream, IL 60188
Email: nplminimus@gmail.com

Horatio Alger, Jr. and The Yankee Blade

(Continued from Page 9)

and, wonderful to tell, I took the first robin through the eye, and it passed through the whole row of 'em, so they fell to the ground all strung on the ramrod as neat as could be. I shouldered 'em, and carried 'em home."

"How many robins did you say there were?" asked

a bystander.

"Just fifty."

"And they all were strung on the ramrod?"

"Sartain. Have you any thing to say agin it?"

"O, no, certainly not. Only it must have been a *plaguy long ramrod*, that's all."

How much did the authors of boys' adventure series know of the exotic lands where they sent their heroes?

By James D. Keeline (PF-898) Second of two parts

In the first part of this article, we saw a few perspectives on the accuracy of descriptions of locations. Author Everett Tomlinson, for example, felt you could not write about a historical event unless you walked the terrain. Meanwhile, H. J. Bedford-Jones revealed that for commercial fiction too much detail could be counterproductive, and having just a few words to evoke a scene was all that was required and desired for this specialized market.

As will be shown, some authors of the early to mid-20th Century had first-hand experience with the lands where they sent their characters. Others did library research. Others just made it up and figured that no one would notice or care very much.

* * *

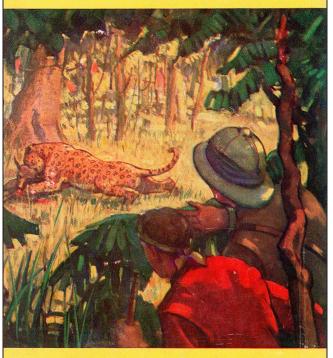
A few adventure series of the 1920s and 1930s showed what could be done in this area. Where imagination or research informed the descriptions of earlier books, more authors of the 1920s had direct experience with their settings.

Samuel Scoville, Jr. (1872-1950) was the author of five volumes about characters who begin life as Boy Scouts and continue as explorers who seek rare gems for a benefactor. Professionally, Scoville was an attorney. In his spare time he worked with the Boy Scouts of America and was a hunter and naturalist. He did *not*, however, travel to the exotic locales in his stories.

Roy Judson Snell (1878-1959) was a prolific author of 22 adventure stories. He spent a good deal of time traveling to the far north and other exotic locales which became the settings of his stories in the **Mystery Stories for Boys** series (1920-1939). When his books were published

This article is derived from a presentation on April 17, 2019 in Washington, D.C. at the 49th annual conference of the Popular Culture Association.

LOST in the WILDS of BRAZIL



JAMES H. FOSTER

(THE EXPLORATION SERIES)

by Reilly & Lee, he was also visiting schools to talk with the young students about his adventures.

Leo Edward Miller (1887-1952) began traveling to South America in March 1911 to collect specimens on behalf of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. He was born in Huntingburg, Indiana, and was an accountant in Indianapolis for three years prior. He had no formal natural science training but proved effective and resourceful in the field. He was on a nearly continuous series of expeditions through September 1916.

In addition to articles for publications like **Geographical Review**, Miller wrote a book with extensive details on the expeditions called *In the Wilds of South America: Six Years of Exploration in Colombia, Venezuela, British Guiana, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil* (Charles Scribner's Sons, 1918).

On one of these trips Miller was the youngest mem-(Continued on Page 12)



(Continued from Page 11)

ber of an expedition led by former President Theodore Roosevelt. They explored and charted what was then called the River of Doubt. It was later named for Roosevelt — River Téodoro. Many articles about his trips mention the large number of specimens sent back, including a rare bird nicknamed the cock-of-the-rock and a 50-pound rodent.

Miller left the museum and began writing four volumes in his **South American Series**, plus a single title, *The Black Phantom* (1922), for Scribner's.

The young adventurers were named Ted Boyle and Stanley Livingtson. The latter name evokes the names of two men who famously met in Africa in November 1871, Henry Morton Stanley (1841-1904) and David Livingstone (1813-1873), with the famous line "Dr. Livingstone, I presume."

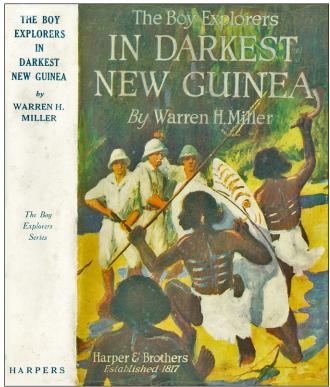
In the preface for the first book of the **South American Series**, Miller emphasizes the authenticity:

Some of the places touched upon in the course of the story ... are assumed; for instance, the arid island and the hidden valley. But the vast majority of descriptions ... are true to life. [*The Hidden People*, p. V]

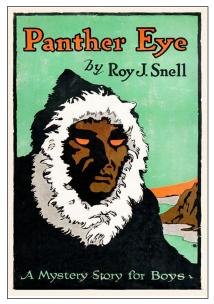
Despite reference to "tiger" in the second title, the main characters return to the Andes mountains of Peru two years later, continuing their quest for Incan treasure. While the first volumes feature treasure hunting and lost race elements, the fourth book takes on a conservation theme as they go to protect rare birds from being poached on behalf of the "Anti-Plumage League of America."

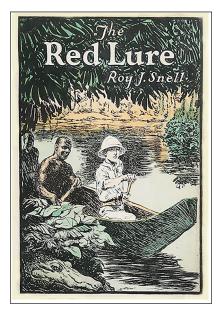
Warren Hastings Miller (1876-1960; no relation to Leo Miller) was an electrical engineer, writer and editor for Field and Stream magazine and several books of nonfiction and fiction along with the Boy Explorers Series for Harper & Brothers.

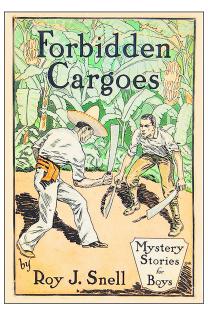
The young adult explorers are named Dwight and Nicky. They each have their own special interests in natural history and different outdoor skills, though both seem capable of taking care of themselves in wilds. A fair amount of detail on camping techniques are described



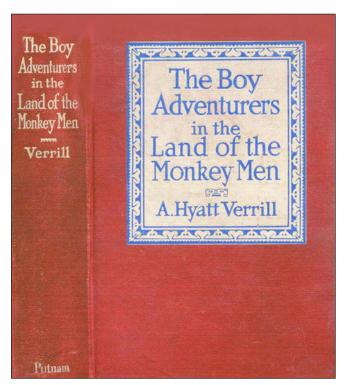
Warren Hastings Miller, an electrical engineer who served as editor for *Field and Stream* magazine, wrote the six-volume Boy Explorers Series for Harpers.







Three of the 22 titles in Roy J. Snell's Mystery Stories for Boys, issued by Reilly & Lee from 1920 to 1939.



Explorer, author and artist A. Hyatt Verrill wrote the four-volume Boy Adventurers Series for Putnam. He visited South America for the first time at age 17.

along with details on gathering the specimens that they will be sending back.

When he wrote the first volume, Warren H. Miller had not visited Dutch New Guinea in southeast Asia. He used library research to detail his story. However, he

took an extended trip to the region to gather information for his future books, purchasing a small boat to travel the waters around the islands. Newspaper articles about the author's real adventures are reflected in the themes of the fiction volumes.

Alpheus Hyatt Verrill (1871-1954) was an American zoologist, explorer, inventor, illustrator and author of articles, fiction and nonfiction books, including both single titles and series (more than 100 books in all).

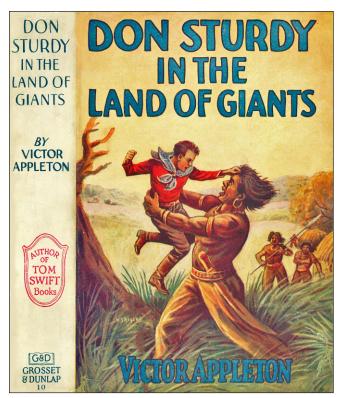
Much of this literary work takes him to the exotic lands and their native people, described therein. His first trip to South America was when he was 17 on assignment from his father, who was a naturalist. He wrote several books describing his real adventures, including his memoir, *My Jungle Trails* (L.C. Page, 1937). One of the finest boys' series he wrote was the **Boy Adventurers Series** published in four volumes by Putnam in the early 1920s.

The stories in the **Boy Adventurers Series** feature two cousins, Harry and Fred, and Harry's father, Dr. Woodward. The boys bought a grotesque idol made of radium. It was brought to the United States by a mining engineer. Trying to find the source of the mineral, the group searches in Panama in the first book and South America afterward. Volume 2 ends in a cliffhanger that is picked up in the next book.

The books are set in Panama, British Guiana, Dutch Guiana, and Brazil. These were all locations that Verrill visited as shown in the map endpapers of his memoir.

Verrill's other collectible juvenile series are **The Deep Sea Hunters Series** and **Radio Detectives Series**,

(Continued on Page 14)



John W. Duffield wrote most of the titles in the Stratemeyer Syndicate's Don Sturdy Series under the "Victor Appleton" house name. However, *Don Sturdy in* the Land of Giants was written by Howard R. Garis.

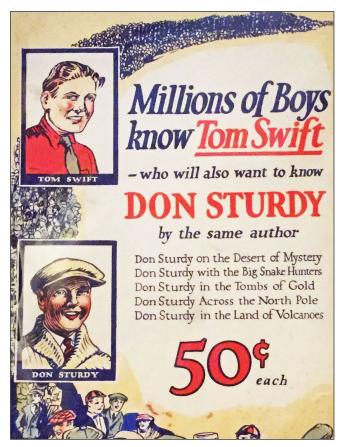
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both published by D. Appleton & Co.

"Victor Appleton" was the Stratemeyer Syndicate pseudonym used for the **Tom Swift Series** (1910-1941). In 1925 a new adventure series was produced featuring Don Sturdy, a young man who travels to exotic locales with two uncles. The dust jacket spines state "Author of Tom Swift Books." As the titles indicate, Don and his uncles travel around the globe, including locations in Africa, Asia, South America, and the North Pole.

John W. Duffield (1859-1946) was born in Brooklyn, New York and graduated from Colgate University in 1882. While writing the **Don Sturdy Series** (G&D, 1925-1935) he was directed to obtain a copy of *Across Mongolian Plains* by Roy Chapman Andrews as well as his article from **National Geographic** (June 1933) about the discovery of dinosaur egg fossils. Unlike writers who visited their settings and wanted to describe them accurately, the Stratemeyer Syndicate was not looking for this in the stories.

Duffield wrote 14 of the 15 Don Sturdy volumes



A G&D promotional poster for the Don Sturdy Series.

among the 115-plus books (in boy's and girl's series) for the Stratemeyer Syndicate. He also authored several non-Syndicate series, including the eight-volume **Bert Wilson Series** (1913-1914) for Sully & Kleinteich.

Latharo Hoover (1885-1951) was born in Kansas. While still in high school, he boarded a teaching ship that left Boston and arrived at France where he spent two years. Another school ship took him to Egypt and India. After several adventures in India, he was next in Kenya which was then British East Africa. He sought gold and diamonds in Africa but found nothing.

While sailing on a schooner, the ship was wrecked on a coral reef. The captain and Hoover were on a raft for three days and then stranded on an uninhabited island for a month. Once rescued, he traveled from there to the South Seas and later back to Africa. Hoover returned home and became a teacher and writer of the Camp-Fire Boys Series for A.L. Burt. The books use some locales from his travels and places he did not visit.

The books tell the adventures of three boys ("Hal" Miller, "Waddy" Waddell, and "Dick" Brown), who travel with a physician scientist uncle (Dr. Charles Miller), a "robust man of middle age with steel-gray eyes, eyes that were piercing yet kindly withal." This



Kansas native Latharo Hoover, who wrote the sevenvolume Camp-Fire Boys Series for A.L. Burt, visited several exotic foreign lands, including Egypt, India and Kenya (then British East Africa).

is uncommon vocabulary for a juvenile.

"Dr. Miller was visiting points of interest in different parts of the world with 'his boys,' the youths pursuing their studies under his direction, and gaining much valuable information not found in the curriculum of the ordinary high school." This calls to mind the school ships Hoover sailed upon during his high school years.

Bob Becker (1890-1962) was a sports writer for the **Chicago Daily Tribune** who was associated with the Field Museum of Natural History. He wrote two stories about a group of three Boy Scouts who traveled to South America. The stories were presented on radio and the first was serialized in the newspaper. They were published as books by Reilly & Lee.

James Horton Foster (1915-1942) wrote the first volume in his **Exploration Series** (1933-1935) for A.L. Burt when he was still in high school. For research he used books and magazines in the local public library. In the first volume, *Lost in the Wilds of Brazil*, he cited the sources he consulted to write the book. The boys in this series are 16-year-olds Bob Holton and Joe Lewis. Their fathers were "noted naturalists and collectors of specimens for museums and zoos."

Clayton Knight (1891-1969) was a prominent illus-

trator of aviation topics. He served in World War I as a pilot and helped to recruit pilots before the U.S. entry into World War II. His series of three books published by Alfred A. Knopf featured the Gregory family — Gerald Gregory and his two sons, Pepe and Ronnie.

The first story is set in South America in 1938, before the war and involves a chase to secure an Incan artifact for a museum. Knight traveled there in 1933 with Forrest Wilson. They visited every country on the continent except for Bolivia and Colombia.

The second volume was set in Okinawa, Japan during the war. Knight was combat historian for the Air Forces in the Pacific theater during the war.

The third book involves an air race from Istanbul to South America and on to Alaska.

In the 1950s and 1960s there were a couple more ad-

venture series with some authors who had lived in the countries where their stories were set and others who had not.

"Dock Hogue" (1909-1952) was a pseudonym for Wilbur Owings Hogue. His Bob Clifton Series featured the son of a planter in Leopoldville in the western portion of the Belgian Congo. This was an area familiar to the author since he was part of a small O.S.S. team stationed there during World War II to ensure



James H. Foster wrote the first volume of his Exploration Series for A.L. Burt while still in high school.

that uranium ore was not exported to Germany. He survived a couple assassination attempts and other dangerous situations as revealed in a 2016 book about the operation, *Spies in the Congo*, by Susan Williams.

Willard Price (1887-1983) also used his extensive travels as the basis for his stories about Hal and Roger Hunt, popularly known as the **Adventure Series**. One of his memoirs was called *My Own Life of Adventure: Travels in 148 Lands* (Cape, 1982).

The 13-volume **Biff Brewster Series** was a non-Stratemeyer Syndicate series published by Grosset & Dunlap in the 1960s under the "Andy Adams" pseudonym that masked several writers as discovered by noted researcher and collector Ernie Kelly. These three authors were working from research rather than experience of the locales in most cases:

• Peter Joseph Harkins (1916-2006) is perhaps best known in the series book world for being a friend of and

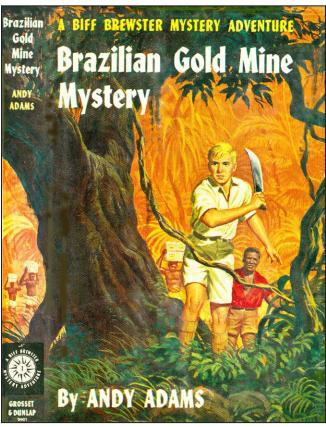
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co-author with Harold L (Hal) Goodwin for the first three Rick Brant volumes. Harkins told Ernie he had not traveled to the lands he wrote about.

- Walter Brown Gibson (1897-1985) was a magician and prolific author of the stories about famous pulp hero *The Shadow* for Street & Smith.
- Edward William Pastore (1908-1989) was a leader in the Boys' Club in Newark, New Jersey. He seems to have had some knowledge of Africa since he wrote a book in 1956 titled *African Safari* several years before he worked on the Biff Brewster series, including the fifth title, *African Ivory Mystery* in 1961. *African Safari* is a story of a 15-year-old American boy, Chet Wagner, who travels with his scientist uncle and befriends a boy, Moglic, from Tanganyika.

In summary, the adventure stories in this study describe certain exotic locales that were popular with authors and readers. Part of the reason for this was



Three authors were behind the 13-volume 1960s Biff Brewster mysteries, a non-Syndicate series for G&D. They were Peter J. Harkins, Edward W, Pastore and Walter B. Gibson, the man behind *The Shadow*.

that they were either largely unexplored or at least not visited by most readers of the series, the notion being they were unfamiliar enough to allow for the surprising adventures to occur. As with any series book topic, the authors' direct experience with their subject varied as to how it affected the authenticity of their setting descriptions. We have described how they used their imagination, research and personal experience to create the books described in this study.

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Edward Stratemeyer (Lothrop), Lee & Shepard

1. /	Lost	on	tne	Orino	осо;
	_			_	

or, American Boys in Ven	ezuela 1902 (L&S)
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2. The Young Volcano Explorers;

or, American Boys in the West Indies 1902 (L&S)

3. Young Explorers of the Isthmus;

or, American Boys in Central America 1903 (L&S)

4. Young Explorers of the Amazon;

or, American Boys in Brazil 1904 (L&S)

5. Treasure Seekers of the Andes;

or, American Boys in Peru 1907 (L, L&S)

6. Chased Across the Pampas;

or, American Boys in Argentina 1911 (L, L&S)

James Griffin's Adventure Series

"Harry Dee" (Harry E. Dankoler) J.H. Yewdale

Note: Books published in 1903. Magazine copyrights

1. James Griffin's Adventures on Land and Sea 1899

2. James Griffin's Adventures in Alaska 1900

3. James Griffin's Adventures in South Africa

Sam Steele Series

"Capt. Hugh Fitzgerald" (L. Frank Baum)

Reilly & Britton

1901

Note: Rerinted as first two Boy Fortune Hunters Series titles.

1. Sam Steele's Adventures on Land and Sea 1906

2. Sam Steele's Adventures in Panama 1907

Boy Fortune Hunters Series

"Frank Akers" (L. Frank Baum)	Reilly & Britton
1. The Boy Fortune Hunters in Alaska	1908
2. The Boy Fortune Hunters in Panama	1908
3. The Boy Fortune Hunters in Egypt	1908
4. The Boy Fortune Hunters in China	1909

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F. The Day Fastine I himtory in the Viscoton 4040 45	Diddle of the Otome
,	Riddle of the Storm 1932
,	The Galloping Ghost 1933
LOV COOLITE COMOS	Whispers at Dawn 1934 Mystery Wings 1935
	Red Dynamite 1936
	Seal of Secrecy 1937
	The Shadow Passes 1938
	The Sign of the Arrow 1939
Serialized as "The Boy Scouts in the North" in St. Nicholas	
(Nov. 1919—Oct. 1920).	Boy Explorers Series
	ren H. Miller Harper & Brothers
4 TI D ID: 1/400E)	he Boy Explorers in Darkest New Guinea 1921
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5. The Cheleod Duby (1020)	he Boy Explorers in Borneo 1922
Socialized in Ct. Nicholae on "The Spakebland Duby" (Ion. 1009)	he Boy Explorers and the Ape-Man of Sumatra 1923
June 1928) and "Rescue of the Ruby" (Nov. 1931—April 1932).	he Boy Explorers on Tiger Trails in Burma 1924
South American Series	he Boy Explorers in the Pirate Archipelago 1925
Leo F Miller Charles Scribner's Sons	Boy Adventurers Series
1 The Hidden People:	lyatt Verrill G. P. Putnam's Sons
The Story of a Search for Incan Treasure 1920 1. 11	he Boy Adventurers in the Forbidden Land 1922
Serialized in The Country Gentleman (14 Feb. 1920—22 April	he Boy Adventurers in the Land of El Dorado 1922
1920).	he Boy Adventurers in the Land
Z. III tile riger 3 Laii	the Monkey Men 1923
Serialized in The Country Gentleman (5 March 1921—14 May 4. <i>II</i> 1921).	he Boy Adventurers in the Unknown Land 1924
3. Adrift on the Amazon 1923	Don Sturdy Series
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	on Sturdy on the Desert of Mystery;
Mystery Cteries for Days	, Autoing in the Land of Caravans 1925
Roy J. Snell Reilly & Lee 2. Do	on Sturdy with the Big Snake Hunters;
1. Lost in the Air 1920 or	, Lost in the Jungles of the Amazon 1925
2. <i>Triple Spies</i> 1920 3. <i>De</i>	on Sturdy in the Tombs of Gold;
•	r, The Old Egyptian's Great Secret 1925
	on Sturdy Across the North Pole;
	r, Castaway in the Land of Ice 1925
	on Sturdy in the Land of Volcanoes;
	The Trail of the Ten Thousand Smokes 1925
•	on Sturdy in the Port of Lost Ships;
	r, Adrift in the Sargasso Sea 1926
· ·	on Sturdy Among the Gorillas;
, ,	r, Adrift in the Great Jungle 1927
•	on Sturdy Captured by Head Hunters;
	r, Adrift in the Wilds of Borneo 1928
14. The Gray Shadow 1931	(Continued on Page 18)

 9. Don Sturdy in Lion Land; or, The Strange Clearing in the Jungle 10. Don Sturdy in the Land of Giants; or, Captives of the Savage Patagonians 11. Don Sturdy on the Ocean Bottom; or, The Strange Cruise of the Phantom 12. Don Sturdy in the Temples of Fear; 	1929 1930 1931	 Bob Clifton, Elephant Hunter Bob Clifton, Jungle Traveler Bob Clifton, Congo Crusader Bob Clifton, African Planter 	Henry Holt 1949 1950 1951 1953		
or, Destined for a Strange Sacrifice	1932	Adventure Series			
 13. Don Sturdy Lost in Glacier Bay; or, The Mystery of the Moving Totem Poles 14. Don Sturdy Trapped in the Flaming Wilderness or, Unearthing Secrets in Central Asia 15. Don Sturdy with the Harpoon Hunters; or, The Strange Cruise of the Whaling Ship 	1933 s; 1934 1935	Willard Price The Jol 1. Amazon Adventure 2. South Sea Adventure 3. Underwater Adventure 4. Volcano Adventure 5. Whale Adventure	hn Day Co. 1949 1952 1954 1956 1960		
Camp-Fire Boys Series		6. African Adventure	1963		
	1929 1930 1930 1930	7. Elephant Adventure 8. Safari Adventure 9. Lion Adventure 10. Gorilla Adventure 11. Diving Adventure 12. Cannibal Adventure 13. Tiger Adventure 14. Arctic Adventure	1964 1966 1967 1969 1970 1972 1979		
Boy Scouts Series	Biff Brewster Series "Andy Adams" Greent & Dunlan				
Bob Becker 1. Land of the Takatu Serialized as "In the Land of the Takatu" in the Chicago Tribune (15 March 1931—17 May 1931) and the Ottaway (23 May 1931—7 Nov 1931). 2. The Devil Bird	1931 o <i>Daily</i>	 Brazilian Gold Mine Mystery [1, 2] Mystery of the Chinese Ring [??] Hawaiian Sea Hunt Mystery [2?] Mystery of the Mexican Treasure [2] African Ivory Mystery [1] 	1960 1960 1960 1960 1961		
Exploration Series		6. Alaska Ghost Glacier Mystery [3] 7. Mystery of the Ambush in India [2]	1961 1962		
•	Burt 1933 1933 1935 1935 (nopf 1946 1948 1949	8. Mystery of the Caribbean Pearls [1] 9. Egyptian Scarab Mystery [1, 2] 10. Mystery of the Tibetan Caravan [1, 3] 11. British Spy Ring Mystery [3] 12. Mystery of the Arabian Stallion [3] 13. Mystery of the Alpine Pass [2] Actual authors (research provided by Ernie [1] Edward W. Pastore [2] Walter B. Gibson [3] Peter J. Harkins Compiled by James D. Keeline (James@Ke	1962 1963 1963 1964 1964 1965 Kelly):		

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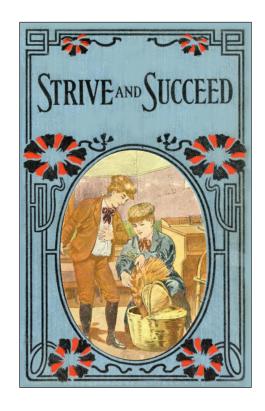
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Note: The 20 answer locations in this Word Search Puzzle are hidden several ways: horizontally reading left or right; vertically reading up or down; or diagonally in any direction. You can circle or draw a light pointed arrow through the answers with a pencil, or use various colored highlight markers for each solution direction.