



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 XLI

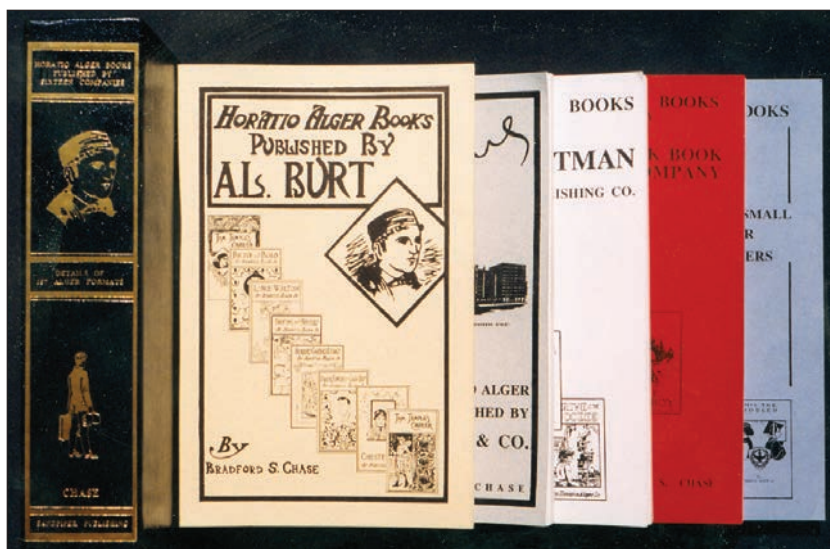
MARCH-APRIL 2003

NUMBER 2

Reflection

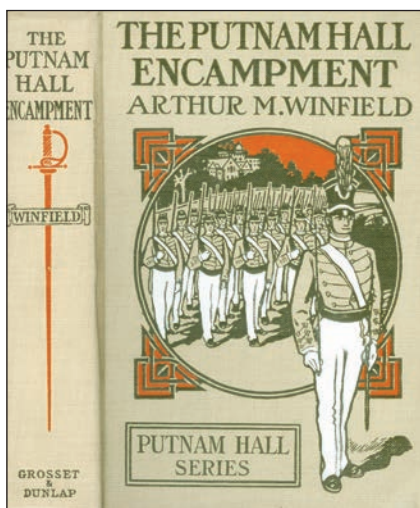
*How an interest in Alger
publishers led to five books*

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Alger's heroes ... and villains

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Edward Stratemeyer's Putnam Hall Series

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President's column

The annual convention has come and gone, and a great time was had by all. The next issue of **Newsboy** will have a complete report on the activities, business meeting, etc. It is always fun to get together with people who share similar interests. Marc Williams did an excellent job as host, and made it look easy!

Speaking of people with similar interests, there must be other Alger and/or juvenile series book fans who might like to join the Horatio Alger Society. It was suggested at the convention that members who sell books, either on the Internet, at shows or through catalogs, could include an application form with each juvenile book sold. This would be a very inexpensive way to target people who would be most likely to enjoy belonging to the Society.

If you sell children's books, and would be willing to enclose applications, please contact Rob Kasper at either rob@kaspermortgage.com or at Horatio Alger Society, PO Box 70361, Richmond, VA 23255, and he will get some applications to you. If you signed up at the convention, I have already forwarded your name to Rob.

Most of our members do not sell books, but do have interests in specific areas of Alger collecting or juvenile series books. If you have an area of interest, why not write an article for **Newsboy**? Alger articles are always needed, but there are other possibilities as well. Some ideas could include: why you like a particular Alger hero, book publishers or book formats, influence of events in the 19th century found in Alger books, juvenile series that have a particular theme, what has happened to previous Strive and Succeed Award winners, how you put up with your spouse's crazy obsession with books, etc, etc.

The possibilities are endless. If you have an idea, or want some advice or suggestions, Bill Gowen, our **Newsboy** editor, wants to hear from you. He can be reached at either hasewsboy@aol.com, or 23726 N. Overhill Dr, Lake Zurich, IL 60047. Again, if you signed up at the convention, I have already forwarded your name to Bill.

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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 — youngsters whose struggles epitomized the Great American Dream and inspired hero ideals in countless millions of young Americans for generations to come.

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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.

Reflection

How an interest in Alger publishers led to five books

By Brad Chase (PF-412)

Around 1980, I had an idea that it would be fun to find out about some of the men who had published books by Horatio Alger, Jr., and detail all of the titles and formats I could find produced by them.

I discovered that nobody who was actively collecting Alger at the time knew how many titles had been published for each of many formats produced, for example, by A. L. Burt in New York or by M. A. Donohue in Chicago. I further found that a collector is likely to be very interested to learn how many "siblings" an Alger book (newly discovered on a dusty shelf in some out-of-the-way used bookstore) had when it was originally printed. Was the book one of a set of 30, of 60 or more Alger titles all having the same cover and spine, or was it originally only produced once in that single format? And, if it was one of many titles sharing a common format, wouldn't it be fun to collect all the titles and reassemble the entire set just as it was first published over 100 years ago? Sure it would!

Well, today, more than 20 years later, I can sit back and reflect upon how much fun I've had pursuing my original idea. I can also look with some pride upon the five books I've managed to publish which detail the Alger formats of some 16 Alger publishers and discuss who they were, when they were in the Alger publishing business and where they lived and worked.

Mensuch as Albert L. Burt, originally from Belchertown, Mass., who became huge in the production of juvenile books produced in his plant in New York City; Michael A. Donohue and his several sons and grandsons, dedicated for decades to continuing the family business in Chicago at the Donohue Building (which still stands); Edward Wadewitz who, as he published inexpensive Alger books, was an early and strong advocate for company innovations such as profit sharing, health coverage, air conditioning

and other measures for improving the working conditions of his employees in Racine, Wisconsin.

Also, Mr. John Trow in New York City produced Alger mainly as a fill-in between his mainline seasonal production of City Directories so his employees would be busy all year long. And then there was Paul Werner of Akron, Ohio, who at one time owned one of the largest book manufacturing plants in the world just before he went broke (one of several different times). He and his business activity, however,

did spawn several other publishing firms which also produced Alger in the early decades following 1900, such as MacLellan, Saalfeld, Superior, Goldsmith, World and World Syndicate Publishing Companies in Akron as well as Cleveland.

The information in the five books resulted from both extensive library and

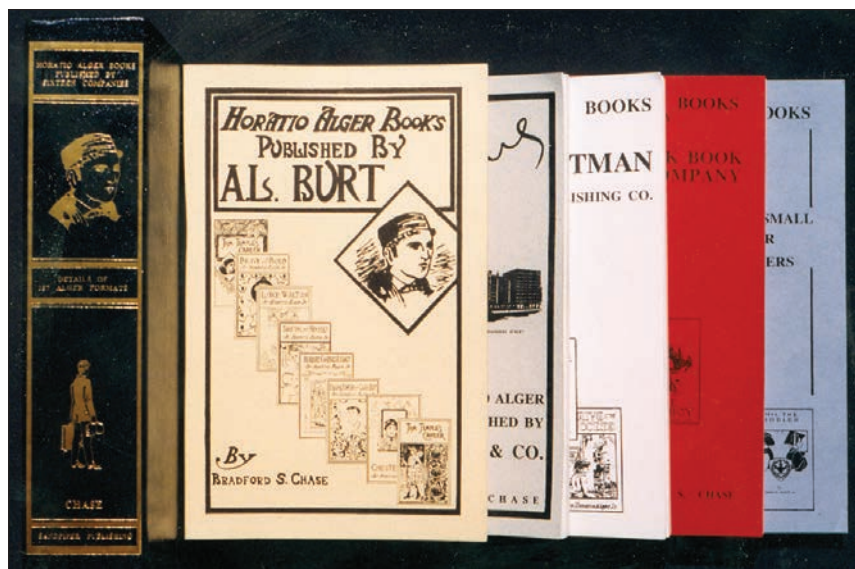
genealogical research as well as the conducting of content surveys of many Alger collections in order to determine which formats and titles actually reached the market.

The cooperation and reactions to these books from Alger collectors has been most satisfying. To recognize that someone is actually willing to purchase one of my babies is most gratifying. Feedback has also been very important as new information continues to be found mainly by collectors who have studied my books and found new insights about what these publishers did well over one hundred years ago.

The frosting on this cake (speaking metaphorically of course) was the idea to make and sell a slipcase to hold the five books now that the project had been completed. Fortunately, I had made the books the same size and kept them all in paperback form. (Although the book on A.L. Burt was produced in both paperback and hard cover.)

The slipcase intentionally keeps the books together, keeps them clean and fresh and assures the bending and folding of pages is precluded. How to get a minimum

(Continued on Page 4)



Editor's notebook

As you have obviously noticed, this issue is late — very late. We apologize for any inconvenience, and thank you for your patience. The May-June annual Convention issue is already being assembled and should be in your hands soon. By Labor Day, **Newsboy** should more or less be back on schedule, with our goal to have the July-August issue completed by that time.

One of the things we are attempting to do is solicit Alger-related articles from our membership in order that we can build a backlog of material, thus enabling us to produce each **Newsboy** in a more timely manner. It is easier to plan and keep the publication on schedule if articles are “in the bank” and ready to go. During the Houston convention, Angelo Sylvester (PF-928) said he had a few ideas and shortly thereafter he came up with the “Alger Heroes and Villains” piece which begins on Page 5. Angelo is also planning articles on several other topics relating to life in New York during Alger's time.

Now, I want to pass along some exciting news about Partic'lar friend **Ralph J. Carlson** (PF-955), who hosted the wonderful 2002 H.A.S. convention in Salt Lake City. On May 14, shortly after Ralph returned home from our Houston convention, he was honored by the Utah Advertising Federation with its annual Silver Medal Award.

Rather than try to explain it myself, I thought it best to reproduce the official citation:

“Ralph J. Carlson is a Utah broadcasting and advertising pioneer who has influenced nearly four decades of radio and advertising. He is an industry and civic leader responsible for many ‘firsts’ in Utah radio, promotions and advertising. Ralph began his noteworthy radio career in 1967 and since then has owned and operated nine stations in Utah and surrounding states. The Utah Advertising Federation is proud to honor Ralph with the Silver Medal Award for his lifetime of achievement in the advertising industry.”

Congratulations, Ralph!

MEMBERSHIP

New e-mail addresses:

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Reflection

(Continued from Page 3)

number of slipcases made to my specifications at a minimal cost became a serious challenge for me about a year and a half ago.

After much searching at companies throughout the New England area, I located an outfit operating in the heart of an 1880-type textile center of old Holyoke, Mass. Each time I visited the plant it was truly a trip back in time, when automobiles were horseless carriages and water was the choice for power.

It's safe to say I felt very uneasy among the dilapidated and abandoned four-story brick buildings and wondered, as I initially searched for the business, what in God's name I was doing in this part of town! But after some pain, I finally found the company tucked away in nicely refurbished offices located in a decrepit old brick building. I told them what I hoped to do, showed them my five books and stressed to them my collector orientation. They make boxes, they said — all kinds of boxes — and could certainly make a slipcase for me and do it cheaply even if I only needed a hundred. That was the news I really wanted to hear!

With some hesitation I gave them the artwork for the spine of the slipcase and got a promise of delivery in about three weeks. In just about that time and with fingers crossed, in the spring of 2002 I revisited the plant, placed four large boxes into my car without looking into them, paid the agreed-upon price and took off. To say the least, I was very nervous about what the slipcases would look like. Would it actually hold all five books? Was the count correct? Could one actually read the artwork on the spine? In other words, did they do the job right? And, if not, did I dare to go back and complain?

After going about a mile and well back into modern-day civilization, I pulled into a parking lot and inspected my purchase. *Lo and behold!* It was first-rate; everything was correct and clear and exactly as I had envisioned. I wrote a thank you note later, letting the U.S. Mail risk a trip there this time instead of me.

So, upon reflection about this whole publishing effort of mine: as the saying goes, it's been “a good run.” I've had a ton of interesting experiences in researching, writing, printing, drawing, surveying and selling these products I have produced. And it still pleases me no end to discover that people are willing to put out their hard-earned money to buy them.

More than that, though, just knowing that some collectors are using what I have created as a guide in pursuing their interests in Horatio Alger books continues to be a real kick for me. Hopefully, my books will continue to be helpful in nurturing that interest.

Alger's heroes ... and villains

By Angelo Sylvester (PF-928)

Horatio Alger's heroes/heroines had to confront many villains. Each is listed below for Alger's 122 book-length stories. The year shown is the year the hard-cover edition appeared, not (as in the case of many of the stories) the initial appearance as a serialization.

1. *Bertha's Christmas Vision*

1856 — Brown, Bazin and Company

Heroine: Bertha

Villain: None

2. *Nothing to Do*

1857 — James French & Co.

Heroine: Miranda Fitz Herbert

Villain: Augustus Fitz Herbert (fraud)

3. *Frank's Campaign*

1864 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Frank Frost

Villain: Squire Haynes & Son (mortgage holder)

4. *Paul Prescott's Charge*

1865 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Paul Prescott

Villain: Nicholas Mudge (poorhouse keeper)

5. *Timothy Crump's Ward*

1866 — A.K. Loring

Hero/heroine: Jack and Ida Crump

Villain: Peg Hardwick (conniver)

6. *Helen Ford*

1866 — A.K. Loring

Heroine: Helen Ford

Villain: Lewis Rand (dishonest cousin)

7. *Charlie Codman's Cruise*

1866 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Charlie Codman

Villain: Peter Manson (miser)

8. *Ragged Dick*

1868 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Richard Hunter

Villain: Mickey Maguire (bully)



"Mark!" exclaimed Talbot. "What brings you here?" — Page 303
Mark Mason's Victory

9. *Fame and Fortune*

1868 — A.K. Loring

Hero/heroine: Richard Hunter

Villain: Mickey Maguire (bully)

10. *Mark, the Match Boy*

1869 — A.K. Loring

Hero/heroine: Mark Manton

Villain: Mother Watson (drunkard/guardian)

11. *Luck and Pluck*

1869 — A.K. Loring

Hero: John Oakley

Villain: Jane Oakley (vicious stepmother)

12. *Rough and Ready*

1869 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Rufus Rushton

Villain: James Martin (drunken stepfather)

(Continued on Page 6)

13. *Ben, the Luggage Boy*

1870 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Ben Brandon

Villain: James Brandon (unjust father)

14. *Rufus and Rose*

1870 — A.K. Loring

Hero/heroine: Rufus and Rose Rushton

Villain: James Martin (drunken stepfather)

15. *Sink or Swim*

1870 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Harry Raymond

Villain: Squire Turner & Son (mortgage holders)

16. *Tattered Tom*

1871 — A.K. Loring

Heroine: Tom (a girl)

Villain: Granny Walsh (drunkard/guardian)

17. *Paul the Peddler*

1871 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Paul Hoffman

Villain: Teddy O'Brien (fraudulent newsboy)

18. *Strong and Steady*

1871 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Walter Conrad

Villain: James Wall (crooked stockbroker)

19. *Phil, the Fiddler*

1872 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Filippo (known as Phil, a street musician)

Villains: The *padrone* system; Tim Rafferty (bully)**20. *Strive and Succeed***

1872 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Walter Conrad

Villain: Jacob Drummond (mean, stingy cousin)

21. *Slow and Sure*

1872 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Paul Hoffman

Villain: Jack Morgan (criminal)

22. *Try and Trust*

1873 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Herbert Manson

Villains: Benjamin Stanton and wife (cold, pompous)

23. *Bound to Rise*

1873 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Harry Walton

Villain: Squire Tom Green (rich and stingy)

24. *Brave and Bold*

1874 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Bob Rushton

Villain: Halbert Davis (presumptuous snob)

25. *Julius*

1874 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Julius, a street boy

Villain: Teophilous Slocum (incompetent teacher)
also, Marlowe (vengeful thief)**26. *Risen from the Ranks***

1874 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Harry Walton

Villain: Luke Harrison (thief)

**27. *Grand'ther Baldwin's Thanksgiving;
with Other Ballads and Poems***

1875 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Grandpa Baldwin

Villain: None

**28. *Seeking his Fortune;
and Other Dialogues***

1875 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Jonathan Peters

Villain: Samuel Jenkins (fraudulent advertiser)

29. *The Young Outlaw*

1875 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Sam Barker

Villain: Ben Warren (village snob)

30. *Jack's Ward*(Revision of *Timothy Crump's Ward*)

1875 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Jack and Ida Harding

Villain: Dick Hardwick (kidnapper/drunkard)

31. *Herbert Carter's Legacy*

1875 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Herbert Carter

Villain: Squire Leech & Son (mortgage holders)

32. *Sam's Chance*

1876 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Sam Barker

Villain: Abner Bodgett (thief)

33. *Shifting for Himself*

1876 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Gilbert Greyson

Villain: Richard Briggs (dishonest guardian)



MR. FOX TRIES TO ROB HIS WARD. — Page 67

*Facing the World***34. *Wait and Hope***

1877 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Ben Bradford

Villain: Jonathan Dobson (tax collector)

35. *The Young Adventurer*

1878 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Tom Nelson

Villain: Milton Graham (thief)

36. *The Western Boy**

1878 — G. W. Carleton

Hero: Tom (real name: Gilbert Grey)

Villain: James Grey (evil uncle; inheritance fraud)

* Reprinted as *Tom, the Bootblack***37. *The Telegraph Boy***

1879 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Frank Kavanagh

Villain: Monsieur LaVallette (counterfeiter)

38. *The Young Miner*

1879 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Tom Nelson

Villain: Missouri Jack (saloon keeper / gambler)

39. *Tony, the Hero*

1880 — J.S. Ogilvie

Hero: Tony Rugg

Villain: Rudolph Rugg (shiftless guardian)

40. *The Young Explorer*

1880 — A.K. Loring

Hero: Ben Stanton

Villains: Deacon Pitken and wife (stingy farmers)

41. *From Canal Boy to President*

1881 — John R. Anderson

Hero: James A. Garfield

Villain: Murphy (abusive seaman)

42. *Ben's Nugget*

1882 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Ben Stanton

Villains: John Campbell & Son (vengeful schemers)

43. *From Farm Boy to Senator*

1882 — J.S. Ogilvie

Hero: Daniel Webster

Villain: Bramble (unscrupulous lawyer)

(Continued on Page 8)

44. *The Train Boy*

1883 — G. W. Carleton

Hero: Paul Palmer

Villain: Luke Denton (villainous thief)

45. *The Young Circus Rider*

1883 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Robert Rudd

Villain: Nathan Tarbox (ill-tempered farmer)

46. *Abraham Lincoln, The Backwoods Boy*

1883 — John R. Anderson; Henry S. Allen

Hero: Abraham Lincoln

Villain: Stephen Douglas (antagonistic senator)

47. *Dan, The Detective*

1884 — G.W. Carleton

Hero: Dan Mordaunt

Villains: Mike Rafferty (thief); Samuel (store clerk)

8. *Do and Dare*

1884 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Herbert Carr

Villain: John Walsingham (heartless squire)

49. *Hector's Inheritance*

1885 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Hector Roscoe

Villain: Allen Roscoe (villainous uncle)

50. *Helping Himself*

1886 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Grant Thornton

Villains: Deacon Gridley and wife (mean and stingy)

51. *Joe's Luck*

1887 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Joe Mason

Villains: Major Norton and son (parsimonious, mean)

52. *The Store Boy*

1887 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Ben Barclay

Villain: Squire Davenport (mortgage holder)

53. *Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy*

1887 — A.L. Burt

Hero: Frank Fowler

Villains: Deacon Pinkerton & Son (mortgage holders)

54. *Number 91**

1887 — Frank A. Munsey

Munsey's Popular Series for Boys and Girls (paperback)

Hero: Paul Parton

Villain: Tom Rafferty (bully)

*First edition uses "Arthur Lee Putnam" pseudonym



"I think, Deacon Crane, that you are impertinent!" said Mr. Fenwick.
 "This to me?" ejaculated the deacon, wrathfully.

— Page 175

In Search of Treasure

55. *Bob Burton*

1888 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Bob Burton

Villain: Aaron Wolverton (mortgage holder, kidnapper)

56. *Tom Temple's Career*

1888 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Tom Temple

Villains: Squire Davenport and family (arrogant)

57. *The Young Acrobat*

1888 — Frank A. Munsey

Munsey's Popular Series for Boys and Girls (paperback)

Hero: Christopher "Kit" Watson

Villain: Stephen Watson (unscrupulous rich uncle)

58. Tom Tracy*

1888 — Frank A. Munsey

Munsey's Popular Series for Boys and Girls (paperback)

Hero: Tom Tracy

Villain: Dudley Weeks (uncle, liar)

*First edition uses "Arthur Lee Putnam" pseudonym

58. The Errand Boy

1888 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Phil Brent

Villain: Jonas (malicious stepbrother)

59. Tom Thatcher's Fortune

1888 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Tom Thatcher

Villain: Squire John Simpson (wicked murderer)

60. Luke Walton

1889 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Luke Walton

Villain: Thomas Butler (thief)

61. \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars)

1890 — United States Book Company

Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance (paperback)

Hero: Phil Brent

Villain: Jonas (malicious stepbrother)

62. Ned Newton*

1890 — United States Book Company

Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance (paperback)

Hero: Ned Newton

Villains: Ellias Simmons and sons (snobs)

*First edition uses "Arthur Lee Putnam" pseudonym

63. Mark Stanton*

1890 — United States Book Company

Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance (paperback)

Hero: Mark Stanton

Villain: Nora Milligan (tyrannical drunkard)

*First edition uses "Arthur Lee Putnam" pseudonym

64. The Erie Train Boy

1890 — United States Book Company

Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance (paperback)

Hero: Fred Fenton

Villains: Robert Ferguson and son (selfish snobs)

65. A New York Boy*

1890 — United States Book Company

Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance (paperback)

Hero: Rufus Rodman

Villain: William Pickett (drunkard)

*First edition uses "Arthur Lee Putnam" pseudonym

66. Dean Dunham

1890 — United States Book Company

Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance (paperback)

Hero: Dean Dunham

Villains: Squire Penwick Bates (mortgage holder)

67. The Odds Against Him*

1890 — Penn Publishing Company

Hero: Carl Crawford

Villain: Anastasia Crawford (ex-convict stepmother)

*Reprinted as *Driven From Home***68. Struggling Upward**

1890 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Luke Larkin

Villain: Squire Rudolph Duncan (unscrupulous banker)

69. The Young Boatman of Pine Point

1892 — Penn Publishing Company

Hero: Harry Morris (nicknamed "Grit")

Villain: Ohilip Courtney (snob)

70. Ralph Raymond's Heir

1892 — F. M. Lupton

Hero: Robert Raymond

Villains: Paul Morton (killer of Robert's father by slow poison); Mr. Cromwell (unscrupulous drugstore clerk)

71. Digging for Gold

1892 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Grant Colburn

Villain: Seth Tarbox (conniver)

72. Facing the World

1892 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Harry Vane

Villain: John Fox (stingy, mean guardian)

73. In a New World*

1893 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Harry Vane

Villain: Dick Fletcher (robber; disreputable liar)

* Reissued as *The Nugget Finders* by John F. Shaw of London**74. Only An Irish Boy**

1894 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Andy Burke

Villains: Godfrey Preston (snob); James Fairfax (thief)

75. Victor Vane

1892 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Victor Vane

Villain: Deacon Jotham Vane (cold, stern father)

(Continued on Page 10)

76. *The Disagreeable Woman**

1895 — G. W. Dillingham

Hero: Jane Blagden

Villain: Count Penelli (fraud)

*First edition uses "Julian Starr" pseudonym

77. *Adrift in the City*

1895 — Porter & Coates

Hero: Oliver Conrad

Villain: Roland Kenyon (conceited stepbrother)

78. *Frank Hunter's Peril*

1896 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Frank Hunter

Villain: Mr. Craven (stepfather; a dishonest lawyer)

79. *The Young Salesman*

1896 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Scott Walton

Villain: Ezra Little (cold-hearted cousin)

80. *Frank and Fearless*

1897 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Jasper Kent

Villain: Nicholas Thorne (overbearing bully)

81. *Walter Sherwood's Probation*

1897 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Walter Sherwood

Villains: Harvey Warner (snob); Dick Ranney (robber)

82. *A Boy's Fortune*

1898 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Ben Baker

Villain: Nicholas Walton (deceitful uncle)

83. *The Young Bank Messenger*

1898 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Ernest Ray

Villain: Thomas Burns (tramp, petty thief)

84. *Mark Mason's Victory*

1899 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Mark Mason

Villains: Solon Talbot & Son (frauds, snobs)

85. *Rupert's Ambition*

1899 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Rupert Rollins

Villain: Mrs. Marlowe (thief)

86. *Jed, The Poorhouse Boy*

1899 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Jed Gilmore

Villain: Mr. and Mrs. Fogson (poorhouse managers)

87. *A Debt of Honor*

1900 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Gerald Lane

Villain: Bradley Wentworth (dishonest inheritor)

88. *Out for Business*

1900 — The Mershon Company

Hero: Robert Frost

Villain: James Talbot (unscrupulous stepfather)

89. *Falling in with Fortune*

1900 — The Mershon Company

Hero: Robert Frost

Villain: Frederic Vernon (schemer, robber)

90. *Making His Mark*

1901 — Penn Publishing Company

Hero: Gerald Lane

Villain: Ruth Lane (mean, nasty stepmother)

91. *Ben Bruce*

1901 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Ben Bruce

Villain: Jacob Winter (mean, stingy stepfather)

92. *Lester's Luck*

1901 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Lester Grey

Villain: Squire Peleg Dunton (cousin, tyrant)

93. *Young Captain Jack*

1901 — The Mershon Company

Hero: Jack Ruthven

Villain: St. John Ruthven (rude, nasty cousin)

94. *Tom Brace*

1901 — Street and Smith

Hero: Tom Brace

Villain: Jack Marden (false uncle, drunkard)

95. *Nelson, the Newsboy*

1901 — The Mershon Company

Hero: Nelson

Villain: Samuel Pepper (fake father, ruthless)

96. *Walter Griffith**1901 — Street & Smith (**Boys' Own Library**)

Hero: Walter Griffith

Villain: Pat Rafferty (rowdy street urchin)

*This title was first published as a serial in **Golden Argosy**, Oct. 22, 1887-Jan. 14, 1888. It was published in late 1901 under the title *Striving for Fortune* by Street & Smith in the paperback **Medal Library**, No. 138 and later reprinted in S&S's **Alger Series**, No. 42.

97. *Tom Turner's Legacy*

1902 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Tom Turner

Villains: Squire Kent & Son (avaricious snobs)

98. *The World Before Him*

1902 — Penn Publishing Company

Hero: Frank Courtney

Villain: Mr. Manning (unscrupulous stepfather)

99. *Andy Grant's Pluck*

1902 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Andy Grant

Villain: Squire Carter (hard-hearted mortgage holder)

100. *A Rolling Stone**

1902 — Thompson & Thomas

Hero: Wren Winter

Villain: Slippery Jim (thief)

*Reprinted as *Wren Winter's Triumph***101. *Bernard Brooks' Adventures***

1903 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Bernard Brooks

Villain: Cornelius McCracken (murderer)

102. *Chester Rand*

1903 — Henry T. Coates

Hero: Chester Rand

Villain: Silas Tripp (stingy store owner)

103. *Forging Ahead**

1903 — Penn Publishing Company

Hero: Andy Gordon

Villain: Brandon Ross & Sons (snobbish lawyers)

*Reprinted as *Andy Gordon***104. *Finding a Fortune****

1904 — Penn Publishing Company

Hero: Harry Gilbert

Villains: Philander Ross & Sons (stingy snobs)

*Originally appeared as "The Tin Box," a serial running in **Golden Days**, March 11-June 3, 1882. Later reprints

in hard cover reverted to that title.

105. *Adrift in New York*

1904 — Street & Smith (Medal Library No. 243)

Hero: Florence Linden

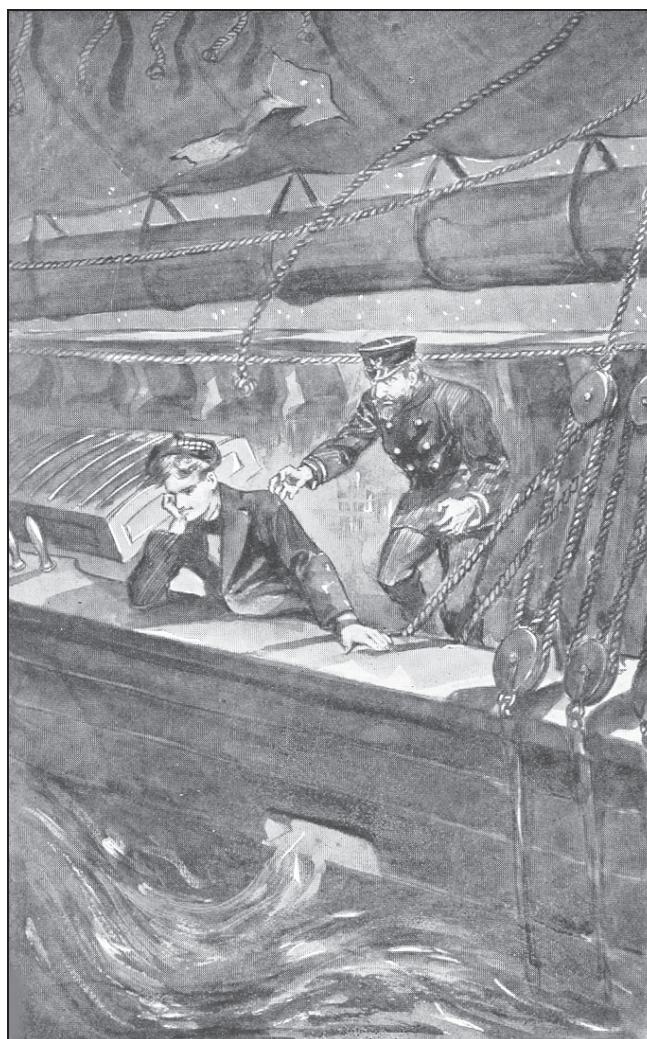
Villain: Curtis Waring (deceitful, snide)

106. *Lost at Sea*

1904 — The Mershon Company

Hero: Robert Roscoe

Villains: John Roscoe (half-uncle); evil Captain Curtis



HE ADVANCED UPON ROBERT WITH THE SILENCE OF A CAT.
— Page 64

*Lost at Sea***107. *Jerry, the Backwoods Boy****

1904 — The Mershon Company

Hero: Jerry Blue

Villain: Dick Clarke (dishonest lawyer)

*Revision by Edward Stratemeyer of Alger's 1878 novel, *Mabel Parker*, unpublished in its original form until 1986.**108. *Mark Manning's Mission***

1905 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Mark Manning

Villain: James Collins (pompous squire's son)

109. *The Young Book Agent*

1905 — Stitt Publishing Company

Hero: Frank Hardy

Villain: Jabez Garrison (thief)

(Continued on Page 12)

110. *From Farm to Fortune*

1905 — Stitt Publishing Company

Hero: Nat Nason

Villain: Abner Balberry (mean uncle/guardian)

111. *The Young Musician*

1906 — Penn Publishing Company

Hero: Philip Gray

Villain: Squire Pope (aristocratic selectman)

112. *Randy of the River*

1906 — Chatterton-Peck

Hero: Randy Thompson

Villains: Biola Bangs and son Bob (horrible, nasty);

Peter Polk (evil purser for steamship line)

113. *Joe, the Hotel Boy*

1906 — Cupples & Leon

Hero: Joe Bodley

Villain: Gaff Caven (swindler/stockbroker)

114. *In Search of Treasure*

1907 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Guy Fenwick

Villain: Deacon Crane (conniving minister)

115. *Wait and Win*

1908 — A. L. Burt

Hero: Jack Drummond

Villains: Joel Drummond (mean, selfish uncle);

Victor Drummond (obnoxious cousin)

116. *Ben Logan's Triumph*

1908 — Cupples & Leon

Hero: Ben Logan

Villain: Mike Hardy (newsboy, bully)

117. *Robert Coverdale's Struggle*

1910 — Street & Smith (Medal Library No. 555)

Hero: Robert Coverdale

Villain: John Trafton (mean, drunken uncle)

118. *Silas Snobden's Office Boy**

1973 — Doubleday and Company

Hero: Frank Manton

Villain: John Carter (robber, kidnapper)

*Originally appeared under Alger's pseudonym "Arthur Lee Putnam" as a serial in **The Argosy**, Nov. 30, 1898-Feb. 22, 1890, and subsequently published in 1899 by J.S. Ogilvie & Co. in its paperback **Sunset Series**, with no known copies existing. Doubleday, above, published the first hard-cover edition.

119. *Cast Upon the Breakers**

1974 — Doubleday and Company

Hero: Rodney Ropes

Villain: Benjamin Fielding (dishonest guardian)

*Originally appeared under the pseudonym "Arthur Lee Putnam" in **The Argosy**, May 27-Aug. 19, 1893.

120. *Hugo, the Deformed**

1978 — Gilbert K. Westgard II

Hero: Henry Harcourt

Villain: Hugo Ring (nasty, deformed hunchback)

*First appeared as a serial in the **New York Sun**, from Jan. 27-March 7, 1974. Also published complete in the December 1973 issue of **Newsboy**.

121. *A Fancy of Hers**

1981 — Van Nostrand Reinhold

Heroine: Mabel Frost

Villain: Benjamin Hadley (incompetent squire)

* This is the revised version of Alger's anonymously written *The New Schoolma'am*, issued in softcover by A.K. Loring in 1877. It first appeared as "A Fancy of Hers" in **Munsey's Magazine** in March 1893. In Van Nostrand Reinhold's hard-cover edition, above, it is paired with *The Disagreeable Woman*, the latter which was reprinted complete in **Newsboy** in the November-December 1974 issue. *A Fancy of Hers* was reprinted in **Newsboy** in March-April 1975.

122. *Mabel Parker, or, The Parkhurst Treasure**

1986 — Archon Books

Heroine: Mabel Parker

Villain: Dick Clarke (scheming, unscrupulous lawyer)

* This is an 1878 Alger adult novel, the original manuscript held in the Street & Smith archives at the Syracuse University Library. The story was adapted for young people by Edward Stratemeyer under Alger's name as *Jerry, the Backwoods Boy* (Merston, 1904).

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Edward Stratemeyer's Putnam Hall Series

By Ed Mattson (PF-067)

The first series book I ever read was *The Putnam Hall Rivals* by Arthur Winfield. The year was 1949 and I found the book in the library of my great-grandfather's home in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

As children we lived in Baltimore City in the winter months, but when school let out we were all taken to the "shore" as it was called in those days. It was on the Chesapeake Bay. My great-grandfather owned this house and property since 1906 and today it is still owned by a Mattson.

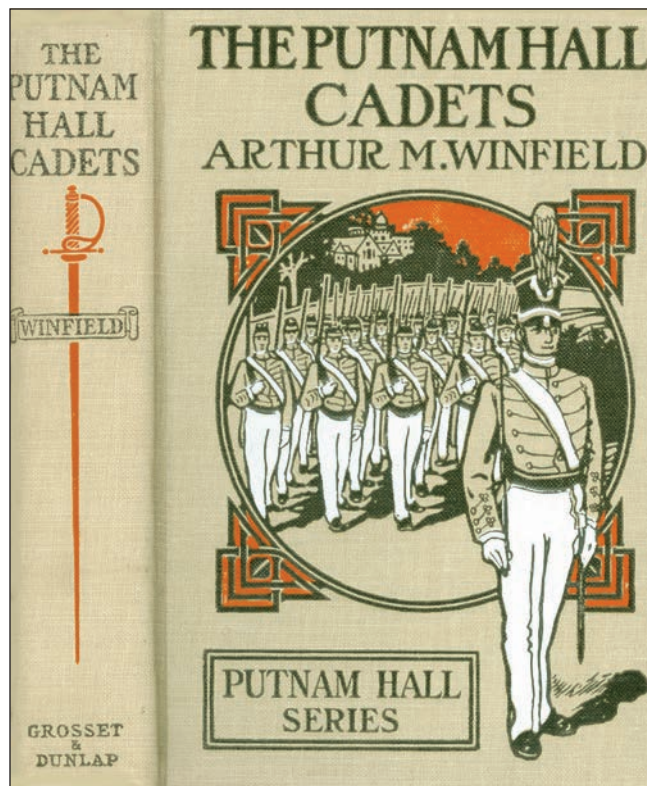
After reading this book, which was written in 1906 and published by The Mershon Company, I was thoroughly hooked. During the winter months in the city I searched book stores for the remaining five books in this six-book series. Eventually, I found them all.

Then, one day, I found a strange phenomenon — a book with the title reversed. Instead of *The Putnam Hall Mystery*, it was titled *The Mystery of Putnam Hall*. Since I did not know much about publishing or reprints, I thought I had found a real treasure. Also, not to be so.

Since more than 50 years have passed since my introduction to the world of series books, I have acquired a bit more knowledge. Putnam Hall, a creation of Edward Stratemeyer (writing under his Winfield pseudonym) was a fictional military school located un upstate New York and run by a former military officer. The stories are about the antics, adventures and general all-around school business of a group of boys. There are the heroes, the villains and all the characters and events that make a series like this work. The Putnam Hall Series is well-written and very enjoyable. I guess over the last 50 years I have read the books at least 10 times.

I would imagine that these stories take us back to a time when things did not seem so stressful. It is a time of my grandparents and now it is a time that is lost, except in the writings of that period. It is easy to forget all the bad things that make up our world today when you immerse yourself in one of these books. I pity those who have never read any of the great series books written in the 1900 to 1940 period.

The Putnam Hall Series still remains my favorite series, and I have most of the books in various formats. However, still elusive are the early Mershon or Stitt editions.



The cover illustration for the Putnam Hall Series was one of the most elegant designs found on series books of the period. This design originated with the Mershon first editions of titles 1 and 2, and was subsequently used for the Stitt and Chatterton-Peck editions of those two titles as well as for the entire six-volume series by Grosset & Dunlap.

I have one Chatterton-Peck, but a sad copy it is.

As I mentioned, Arthur M. Winfield was one of the personal pen names used by Stratemeyer. This pseudonym appears on several other series, including the famous Rover Boys Series as well as four of the 12 titles in the early Bound to Win Series. Even though the Rover Boys predate the Putnam Hall Series by two years (1899 to 1901), the Putnam Hall Series is about the cadets of Putnam Hall before the Rover Boys arrived there, which was in 1899 in *The Rover Boys at School*. In advertisements, the Putnam Hall series is promoted as "a companion series to the famous Rover Boys Series."

I would guess that the "bad guys," such as Dan Baxter, must have been slow learners, because they hung around after the first group of cadets had long left and the three Rover Boys arrived at the school.

It took me more than 50 years to find copies of the Putnam Hall Series in dust jackets, and to date I have found only two. Each jacket is different. The one jacket

(Continued on Page 14)

Edward Stratemeyer's Putnam Hall Series

(Continued from Page 13)

is the same as the jackets on the early Grosset & Dunlap Rover Boys printings, with one major difference: the portraits of the three boys on the cover show them in military dress uniforms rather than typical prep school garb (see comparison on Page 15). The jacket is printed on white coated paper, with the illustration in the same red-and-green color scheme used for the Rover Boys books of that period.

I recently acquired *The Putnam Hall Mystery* in a totally different jacket (below). This jacket replicates the gray cloth cover of the book. It is also on white coated paper, with the title in green and Winfield's name, along with **Putnam Hall Series** in red. As best I can determine

through advertisements on the jackets, this jacket came earlier, about 1911, while the Rover Boys-style jacket dates from around 1916.

To summarize, the printing history of the Putnam Hall Series is as follows:

The Putnam Hall Cadets was published by The Mershon Co. in 1901, and was later reprinted by Stitt and Chatterton-Peck. Following the sequence used for the Rover Boys Series, Stitt produced the books in 1905, Mershon took over again briefly in 1906 when William Stitt left the publishing business, and Chatterton-Peck produced the books in 1907, before they went over to Grosset & Dunlap in 1908 following the settlement of a lawsuit between Chatterton-Peck and Edward Stratemeyer.

I have noticed that my Chatterton-Peck copy of *The Putnam Hall Cadets* is about 1/8 to 1/4 inch shorter than the G&D editions. This is also true for the Rover Boys books published by Mershon, Stitt and Chatterton-Peck, as well as these publishers' other series books, such as the first two *Ralph of the Railroad* titles.

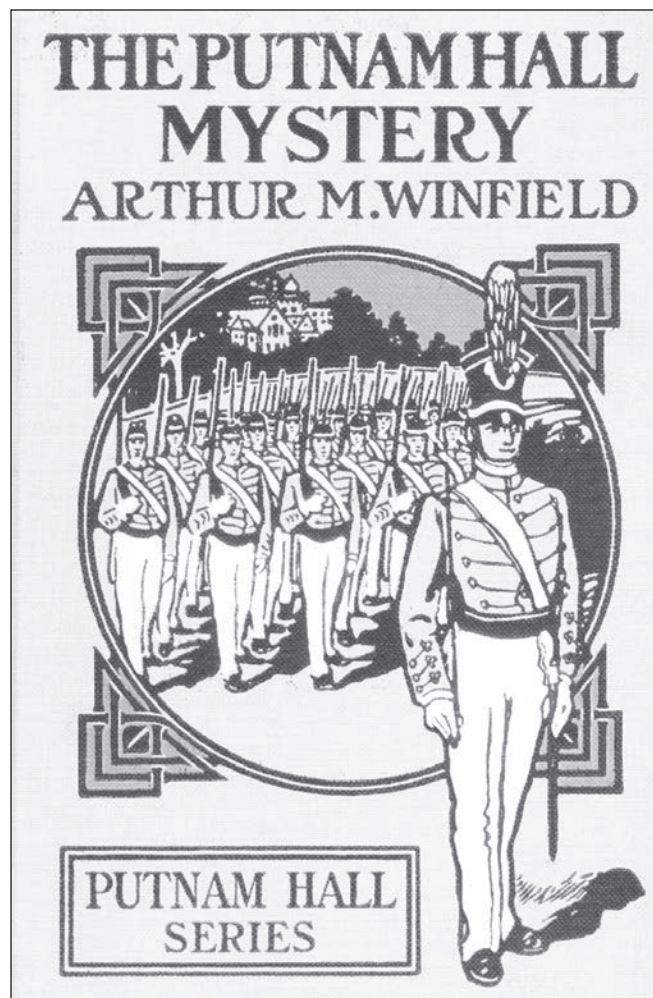
Note that for most of these series, when Grosset & Dunlap took over their publication in 1908, the first G&D transitional printings were in the smaller size, noted above. This was probably due to existing Chatterton-Peck stock being transferred over to G&D.

The Putnam Hall Rivals was published by Mershon in 1906, and then by Chatterton-Peck (1907) and G&D. The final four titles, *The Putnam Hall Champions* (1908), *The Putnam Hall Rebellion* (1909), *The Putnam Hall Encampment* (1910) and *The Putnam Hall Mystery* (1911) were all copyrighted and published by G&D. Their format is similar to other G&D series of the period, slightly taller than their Mershon, Stitt and Chatterton-Peck predecessors.

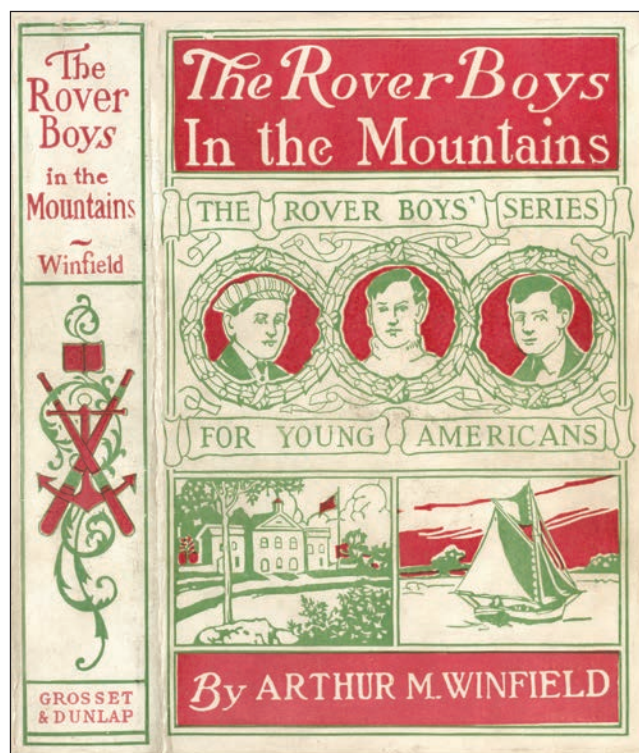
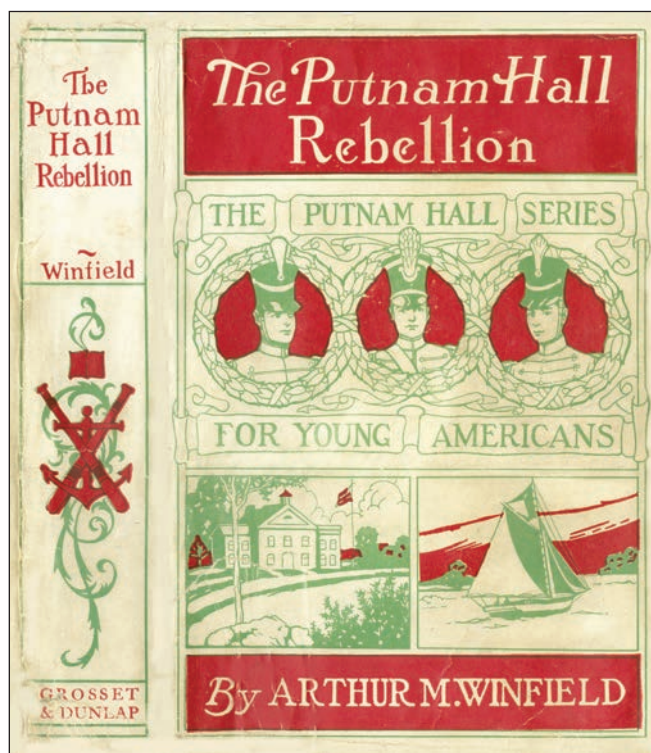
When the series was reissued with its titles reversed remains a mystery to me, although it was apparently in the late teens. I have one book inscribed "Christmas 1917." Is that the year they first appeared?

The titles as reversed are as follows: *The Cadets of Putnam Hall*, *The Rivals of Putnam Hall*, *The Champions of Putnam Hall*, *The Rebellion at Putnam Hall*, *The Encampment at Putnam Hall* and *The Mystery at Putnam Hall*. Printed from the original plates, the text of these books is identical to that of the originals.

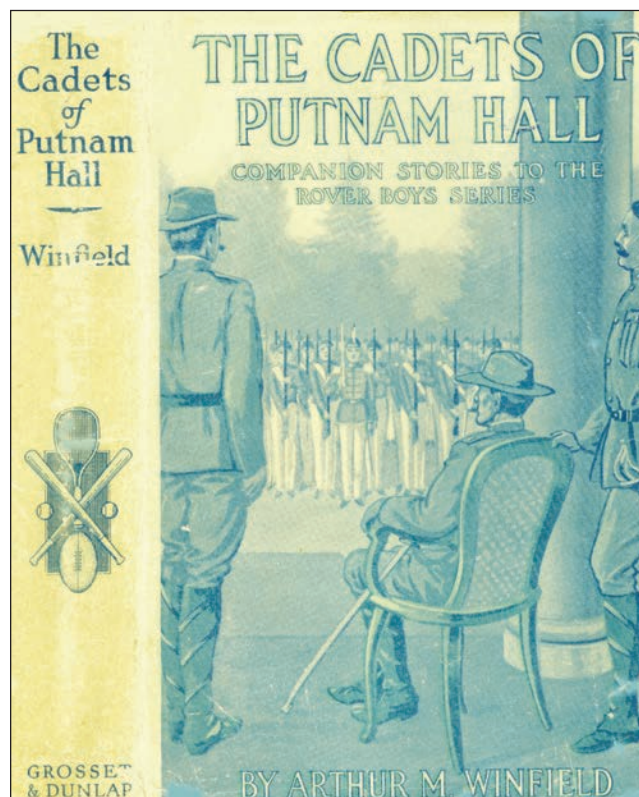
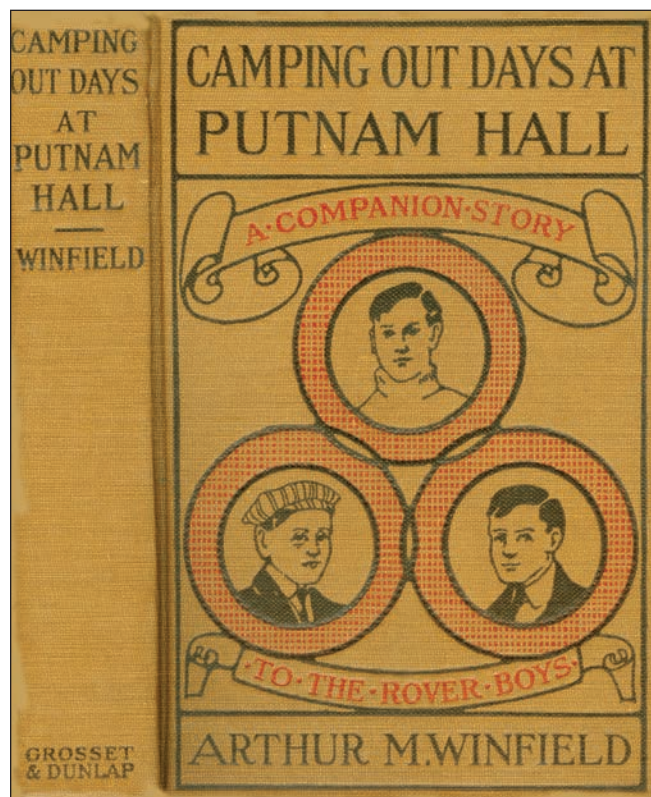
This format comes in a medium brown cloth cover, redesigned with portraits of three boys in large circles arranged pyramid-style on the front. The title and illustration is in black with Winfield's name in red. The dust jacket is G&D's familiar "duotone" style of the period, which Tom Swift researchers have determined to have first appeared in 1918 for that series. The jacket illustration is the same as that of the book's frontispiece.



The earliest-observed Grosset & Dunlap Putnam Hall Series dust jacket (this example probably dates from 1911) replicates the cover design of the book, much like the famous Tom Swift "quadrant" jackets, which were issued through 1917.

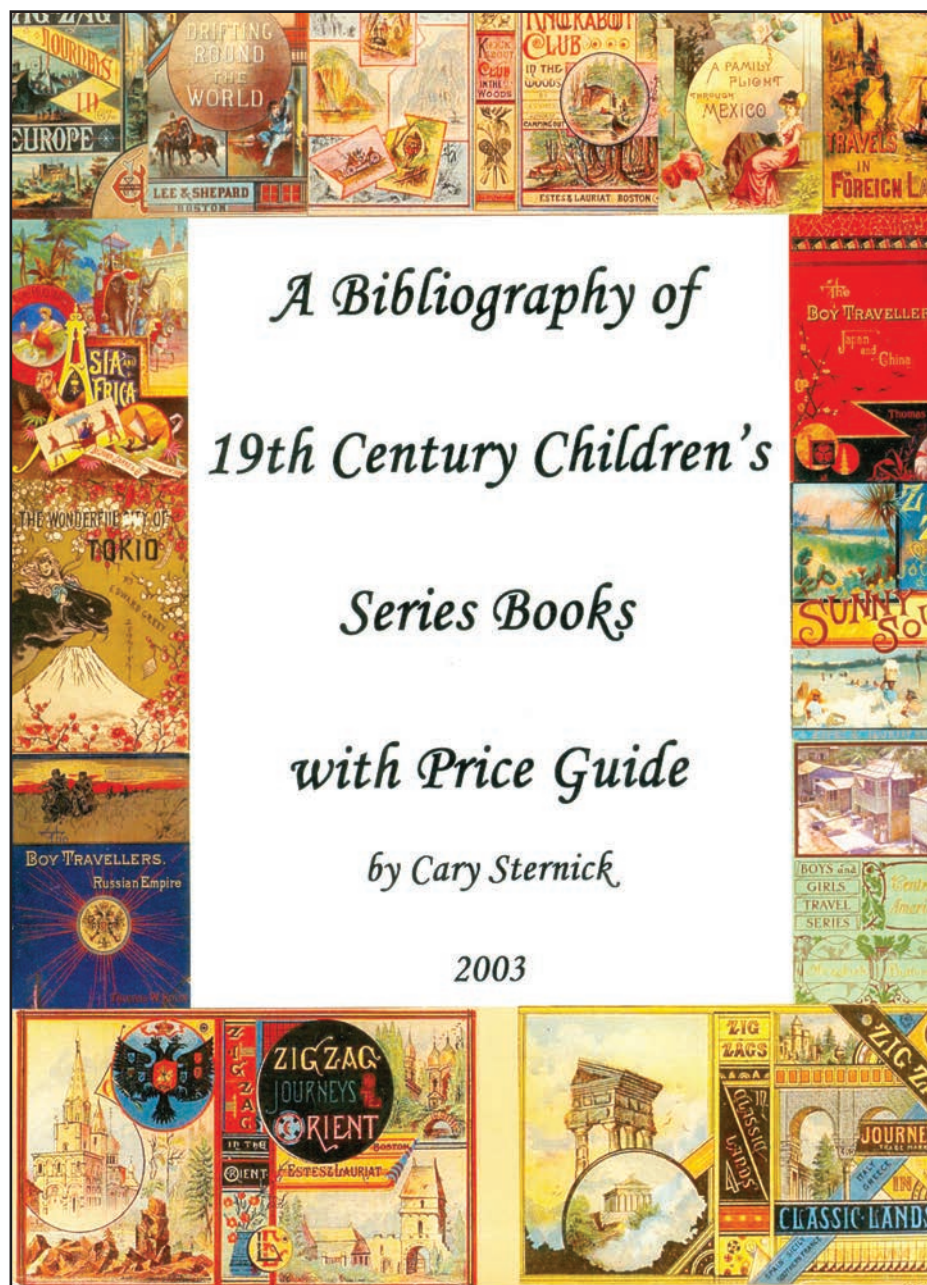


The G&D dust jacket illustration for the Putnam Hall Series, left, shows the boys in military-style uniforms instead of the informal school dress worn by the Rover Boys, right.



Later Grosset & Dunlap reprints reversed the titles and had a totally redesigned cover, at left. They also came with a duotone-style dust jacket found on most G&D series published in the late teens.

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