



# THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

# NEWSBOY



*Horatio Alger, Jr.*

1832 – 1899

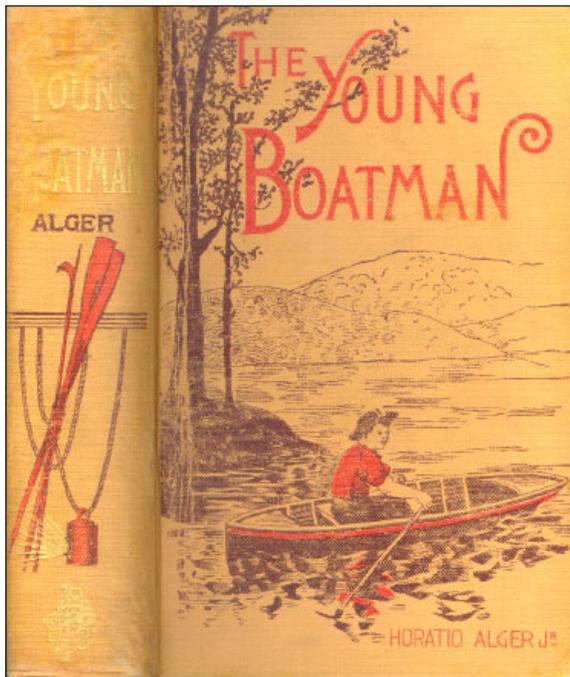
A magazine devoted to the study of Horatio Alger, Jr., his life, works, and influence on the culture of America.

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NUMBER 4

## A perplexing Pine Point puzzle



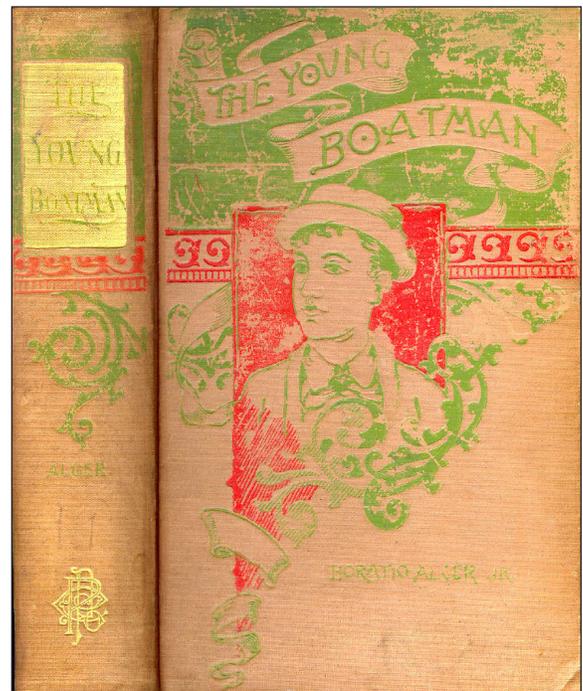
*Some random thoughts regarding the publishing priority of The Young Boatman by Horatio Alger, Jr.*

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## President's column

Greetings from the Southern Tier of New York State. It greatly saddens me to report of the passing of Janice Morley (PF-957), who died on Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008. Janice and Mike were our hosts at our Carson City Convention, and it is difficult to realize that she is no longer with us. Janice was one of the most vibrant, energetic and lively people I have known. She lived every day to its fullest. Those who attended our recent convention realize, as she introduced 2008 *Strive and Succeed Award* recipient Alex Codeglia, that her enthusiasm and exuberance in describing his life was contagious. I think we all shared her warmth and vitality. We are all richer for having known her.

Mike has asked us to join him in prayer to help send Janice on her way to the next stop of her journey. He will be putting together a memorial link for Janice on the H.A.S. archive page at [www.thehoratioalgersociety.org](http://www.thehoratioalgersociety.org). If you have any pictures or stories about Janice that you would like to share, please send them to Mike, and he will post them. Our editor provides directions for accessing the archive page in a note on Page 4.

Although it is a little late, I should introduce myself to those whom I have not met. My name is Lawrence (Larry) Rice. I am 73 years old and retired from IBM as a computer operator specialist after 33 years of service. I was then an elected Town Justice in our small upstate town (near Binghamton) and served as such for 13 years. I have now been elected to serve as your president for the next two years. I have been a member of the Society for 23 years.

I attended my first convention in 1993 and have only missed one since. This is where one really enjoys being a member by sharing interests and experiences.

My wife of 53 years, Vivian, and I have four children, a daughter Debbie and three sons, Bob, Scott and Chris. We are fortunate that three of our children live within walking distance of our home. I told you in my last column that three days after arriving home from our western trip, we drove to Florida. Our grandson, Scott Paul Rice, graduated from high school in Hudson, Florida. As part of his graduation gift, we presented him with a copy of *Strive and Succeed*, which has become our custom at graduation. He is now attending the University of South Florida in Tampa as a pre-med student.

Each of our six days in Florida set new record-high

(Continued on Page 4)

## HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

*To further the philosophy of Horatio Alger, Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive and Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes — 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. E-mail: [hasnewsboy@aol.com](mailto:hasnewsboy@aol.com)

# Remembering Janice Morley (1955-2008)

By Carol Nackenoff (PF-921)

I was shocked and deeply saddened by the news that Janice Morley had died from a massive stroke on Saturday, September 6 at the age of 52. I never could have imagined that, when we said goodbye in Carson City at the end of the 2008 convention, that she and Mike planned and hosted, that I would never see Janice again.

She had plans for the day on Sept. 5 when Michael left their Gardnerville home late morning; when he returned around 3 p.m., Janice was on the couch, unresponsive.

Taken by paramedics to the hospital in Carson City, Janice was then transported by air to Reno for more advanced care. It was there that Michael learned that the stroke had caused extensive bleeding into Janice's brain, and that she would not long survive. Held by Michael and her brother (Mike) and sister-in-law (Patrice) from San Francisco, Janice died early Saturday morning. Her sisters lived too far away to be with her in her final hours. A service of remembrance was held in San Francisco

on Saturday, Sept. 13. Mike told me that Janice's request had long been that her ashes be scattered at Lake Tahoe, a place that she loved from childhood when her family used to vacation there. I will never think of Lake Tahoe again without remembering her.

Mike provided me with information about Janice from the time before our paths first crossed. She was born Janice Lynn Antosik and grew up in Burlingame, California. Prior to meeting Mike, Janice had been married and divorced, and after the three-year marriage, she joined the Silicon Valley workforce, living in a house she rented in Redwood City.

While working at Motorola Computer Systems in 1984, Janice met a co-worker named Michael Morley at a party hosted by a mutual friend. They were soon a

couple, and were married July 23, 1988, professing, in their vows, a shared passion for "friends, books, music, and animals." Mike and Janice recently celebrated their 20th anniversary, and they did so among friends, music, books, and animals.

While working in the Silicon Valley, Janice was working on a B.S. in business from the University of San Francisco, attending school part-time in the evenings, and she completed the degree after seven years, shortly before they married. When I met Janice, the Morleys

were living in Fremont and Janice was still working with computers, often putting in long and sometimes stressful days at work. I remember Janice having to work even while attending Alger conventions. Mike was working long hours, too, even before the shift to eBay. I remember that, when I attended the American Political Science Association Meetings in San Francisco just prior to Labor Day in 1996, bringing Jim and 9-year old Alex along, Janice was working, but Mike

managed to get off for an evening, drove in from Fremont, and took us to a terrific Mexican restaurant. The one other APSA convention I attended in San Francisco, Janice and Mike met me at a nice German restaurant near the convention site and we had a great evening of food and conversation.

I met Janice at my very first Horatio Alger Society convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1994. It was the Morleys' first convention, too. Janice liked to collect Alger miniatures. I loved these warm, open, interesting people right away, and while we didn't often get to see each other apart from the annual conventions, we made a point of having dinner together or going on an outing together at each convention. Janice served a term on the

*(Continued on Page 5)*



**Janice Morley displayed her love for animals while visiting Doug and Chris DeHaan's dairy farm in Wayland, Mich., during the 2005 Grand Rapids convention.**

*(Photo by Bernie Biberdorf)*

## Editor's notebook

Just a week prior to sending this issue to the printer, we were informed of the death at the way-too-young age of 52 of Janice Morley, who with her husband, Mike, hosted the recent Horatio Alger Society convention in Carson City, Nevada. Janice joined the Society in early 1995 after she and Mike attended their first convention in 1994 at Grand Rapids, Mich.

Over the years, Janice provided several articles for *Newsboy*, none as comprehensive and enthusiastic as her background information and travel tips for those planning to visit the Carson City-Lake Tahoe area. As early as 1998, Janice expressed her desire to host a convention, but family contingencies in California put her and Mike's plans on hold for several years. Finally, after they moved to Nevada, her dream was able to become a reality.

I hope you enjoy Carol Nackenoff's tribute to Janice beginning on Page 3, as well as the message from Mike at the right in which he outlines the Remembrance for family and friends to take place in California on Oct. 4.

### Editor's note:

To access the Horatio Alger Society's archive page, visit [www.thehoratioalgersociety.org](http://www.thehoratioalgersociety.org). You will find several links at the bottom of the home page. Click on the "archive" link. To enter the archive page, type the username **member** and the password **newsboy**.

E-mail your reminiscences of Janice Morley to [mmorley@carsonvalleybooks.com](mailto:mmorley@carsonvalleybooks.com) and he will post them to the archive page.

## MEMBERSHIP

### Change of address

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## President's column

(Continued from Page 2)

temperatures for the first week of June. The daytime temperature never dropped below 90 and the humidity was high. We were glad to return north to more comfortable weather.

As I mentioned earlier, the annual Horatio Alger Society convention is a major activity of our organization, and I encourage those not having previously attended a convention to join us in Charlottesville, Virginia, on April 30-May 3, 2009. Hosts Jeff and Judy Looney will be providing details in upcoming issues of *Newsboy*, and there is also a convention sub-page on our Web site where information will also be posted.

Your Partic'lar Friend,  
Larry Rice (PF-757)  
P.O. Box 181  
36 Church Street  
Maine, NY 13802-0181  
E-mail: [lrice5@stny.rr.com](mailto:lrice5@stny.rr.com)

### A message from Mike Morley:

Dear Partic'lar Friends:

I don't expect any of you to come to California for Janice's Remembrance, but I wanted you all to see the notice (below). There will be a guest book for Janice at [www.legacy.com](http://www.legacy.com) if you would care to add your own personal remembrance.

Flowers can be sent to the Menlo Park address listed below. If you wish to make a donation in lieu of flowers, please make it to the Horatio Alger Society with a notation that it go to the **Strive and Succeed Award** fund in Janice's memory.

Michael Morley  
1891 Colt Lane  
Gardnerville, NV 89410  
(775) 901-2649  
E-mail: [mmorley@carsonvalleybooks.com](mailto:mmorley@carsonvalleybooks.com)

Sept. 16, 2008

The Remembrance for Janice Morley will be on Saturday, October 4th from 2 to 5 p.m. The location will be at 1793 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park CA 94025. This is the same house (my father and stepmother's house) where Janice and I were married in 1988.

There will be a brief service, but this Remembrance is also a wake as Janice would have preferred. Lots of food and beverages will be provided. Janice's obituary appeared in the **San Jose Mercury News** on Wednesday, Sept. 17.

**Best,  
Mike Morley**

## Remembering Janice Morley

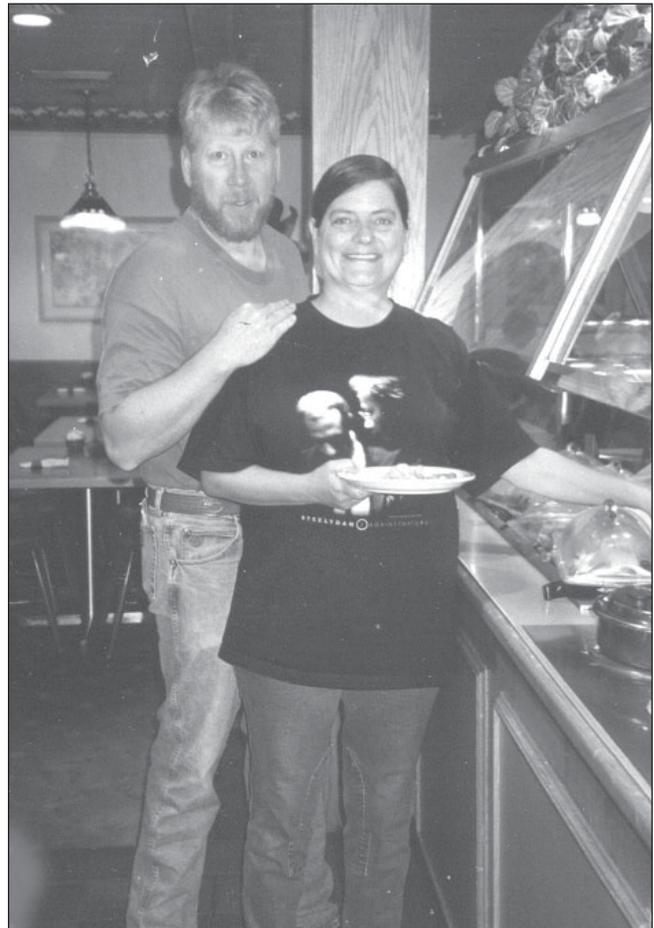
*(Continued from Page 3)*

Board of Directors and worked to set up our original Web site. Janice had always researched interesting and sometimes off-beat things to do in areas we were visiting, and she was totally into exploring beyond the confines of bookstores and antique marts. She was my fount of knowledge on exploring, whether to Antelope Island near Salt Lake City, or with her extensive “to do” ideas she provided for the Carson City convention. I would often find myself in the Morleys’ room some evening for heartfelt conversations and interesting discussions that ranged from politics (we had some rather similar views) to popular culture, to the trials of dealing with aging parents, pets and grieving over the loss of same, to our psychological states.

I thought it was so wonderful that they adopted a Hurricane Rita rescue dog shortly after losing one of their beloved Labradors. We also shared a love of travel, and I would often pepper Janice and Mike with questions about the logistics of adventurous trips abroad they had taken. We often sat up talking much later than my bedtime, and I never regretted the loss of sleep. I remember the thin cigars Janice smoked on some of those occasions. I always left the Alger conventions wishing I could see more of Janice and Mike.

Mike and Janice both looked forward to the day they could retire from the high-stress work they were both engaged in, hopefully by age 50, and they began looking for places to relocate with their horses and dogs, either in Utah or in Nevada. I got to hear about beautiful parts of the country they visited that I had never seen as they searched for the right place to retire before finding it in Gardnerville not so long ago. Once they settled upon Gardnerville, Janice even concocted a plan for them to ride their horses to attend a nearby church that had a hitching post.

Janice did manage to stop working a few years before moving to Gardnerville. It was, however, in large part because of mounting responsibilities on another front. Janice and I had had many conversations (sometimes joined by other H.A.S. members with similar problems) about what to do when parents with declining health and physical mobility issues insist upon remaining in their longtime homes. Janice, who among her female siblings was closest to the parental home, was increasingly called upon to help with her parents. They needed increasing levels of care, and Janice honored their wishes to remain in their home, even though this meant that a large part of the work of caring for them fell upon her. While she did receive help from other family members as the



**Mike and Janice Morley at the 2002 H.A.S. convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.** (Photo by Doug Fleming)

parents became increasingly housebound and ill, I saw Janice put the needs of her parents above her own comfort, giving unstintingly of her time and love until each of them was gone. I admired her for the decision she made, but it ultimately meant that Janice would have very little retirement time to enjoy.

Janice was also helping mentor Alex Codeglia, our 2008 **Strive and Succeed Award** winner, whose mother Janice had known years ago from college and with whom she had reconnected in recent years before she succumbed to cancer. She was invested in Alex as if he were a member of their family.

Janice was a good friend. She was full of life and interests and energy. She found ways to be cheerful even when life was hard; she was resilient and had a great sense of humor. She loved to talk, and she talked fast. Perhaps, somehow, she knew that she had to talk fast because she might not have much time. I can't even write this without tears. I will miss her greatly, and we should all take care of Mike, who will miss her most of all.

# GOOD NEWS

NORTH  
EAST  
WEST  
SOUTH

\*BEST STORIES FROM EVERY QUARTER\*

Entered According to Act of Congress, in the Year 1890, by Street & Smith, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
Entered as Second-class Matter at the New York, N. Y., Post-Office, September 4, 1890.

Vol. 1.

STREET & SMITH, Publishers,  
31 Rose Street. P. O. Box 2734.

New York, September 4, 1890.

FIVE CENTS PER COPY.  
Subscription Price, \$2.50 per Year.

No. 17.

## GRIT;

### Or, THE YOUNG BOATMAN OF PINE POINT.

By HORATIO ALGER, Jr.,

Author of "Only an Irish Boy," "Ragged Dick," "Fame and Fortune,"  
"Sink or Swim," "Tattered Tom," "Brave and Bold," etc.

#### CHAPTER I.

GRIT.

**G**RIT!"

"Well, mother, what is it?"

The speaker was a sturdy, thick-

set boy of fifteen, rather short for  
his age, but strongly made. His eyes were  
clear and bright, his expression was  
pleasant, and his face attractive, but even  
a superficial observer read in it unusual  
firmness and strength of will. He was  
evidently a boy whom it would not be  
easy to subdue or frighten. He was sure  
to make his way in the world, and main-



"MY HAT'S OFF" EXCLAIMED PHIL. IN  
EXCITEMENT. "ROW AFTER IT QUICK! IT COST TEN DOLLARS."



Ex 1: The first page from the 1890 serialization as it appeared in Street & Smith's Good News. This story was first serialized in New York Weekly in 1884.

# A perplexing Pine Point puzzle; or,

## Point puzzle; or,

*Some random thoughts regarding the publishing priority of The Young Boatman by Horatio Alger, Jr.*

By Robert E. Kasper (PF-327)

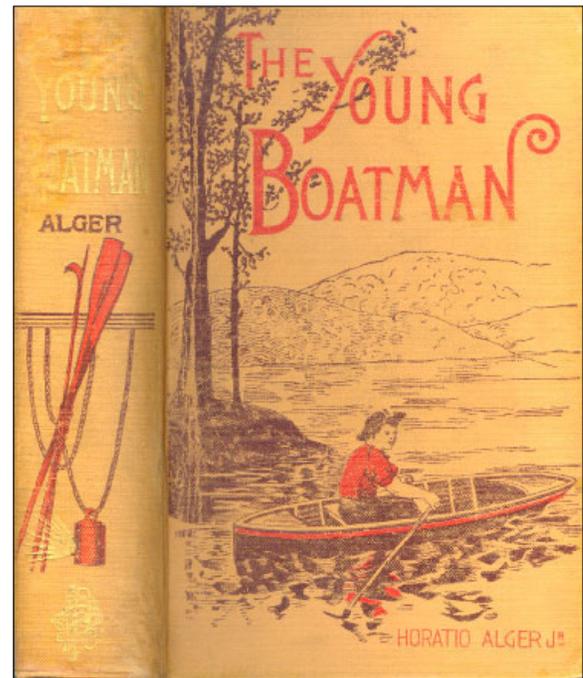
*There has been a long-running debate among several society members regarding the genuine first edition of Horatio Alger's **The Young Boatman**, originally published (in book form) in 1892 by The Penn Publishing Company of Philadelphia. This debate apparently did not influence three Alger bibliographers (Frank Gruber, Ralph Gardner and Bob Bennett) as they do not disagree on the true first edition. Penn issued three distinct editions in 1892 alone and published multiple editions until at least 1902.*

Prior to issuance in hardcover by The Penn Publishing Company, this story was first serialized in *New York Weekly* as "Grit; or, The Young Boatman of Pine Point." The first appearance was in 1884 and ran from May 19 through July 21 in Volume 39, Nos. 28-38.<sup>1</sup> It was serialized again in 1890 in *Good News* from September 4 through November 20 in Volume 1, No. 17 to Volume 2, No. 28 (see Ex. 1).<sup>2</sup>

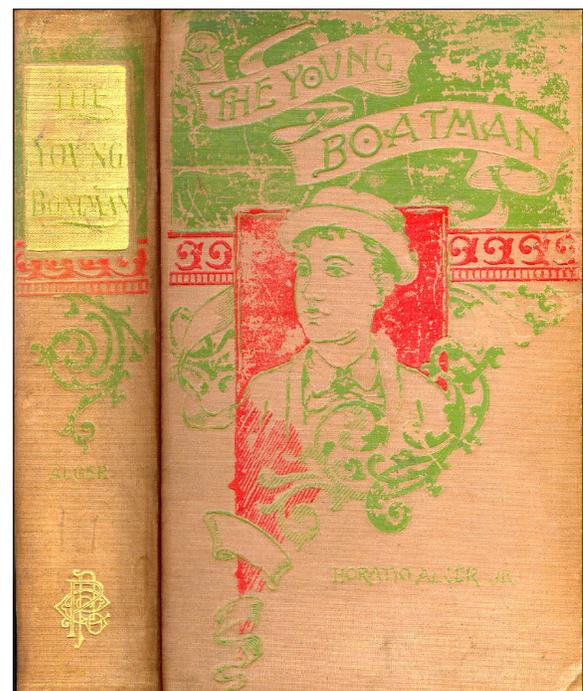
The acknowledged first state of the first edition is bound in tan cloth with the vignette of a boy rowing across a lake on the front cover (see Ex. 2). The title is stamped in red above the lake scene. The spine design depicts a pair of oars, boat hook, rope and lantern stamped in red and gold and the title is stamped in gold. The title page is dated 1892 as is the copyright date. This was Penn's second Alger title, having published *The Odds Against Him* two years earlier in 1890. The Penn Publishing Company eventually issued seven Alger titles in first and subsequent editions.

The purported second state of the first edition is bound in light brown cloth with a figure of a boy in the center of the front cover surrounded by a filigree pattern. The title appears within an intricate scroll-like design in a rectangular box above the boy. The title is stamped in green in a gold-colored box on the spine with

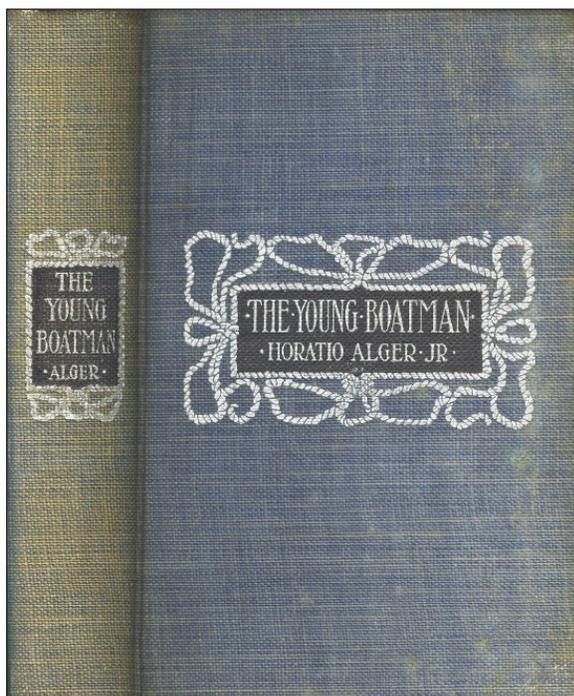
(Continued on Page 8)



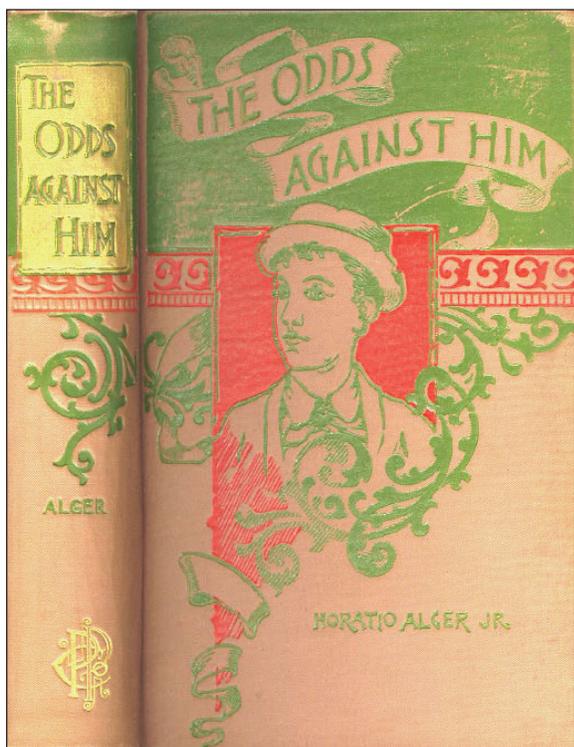
**Ex. 2: The presumed first edition, first-state binding as described by Alger bibliographers Frank Gruber, Ralph Gardner and Bob Bennett.**



**Ex. 3: The presumed second-state binding, according to Alger bibliographers Frank Gruber and Ralph Gardner.**



**Ex 4: The third-state binding. This cover was used from 1892 until at least 1902.**



**Ex 5: Second-state binding of *The Odds Against Him*. Editions from 1890 & 1891 have been noted.**

## The publishing priority of Alger's *The Young Boatman*

(Continued from Page 7)

a continuation of the filigree design from the front cover (see Ex. 3). The Penn monogram of interlocking letters is stamped in gold at the spine foot in this edition and the first state.<sup>3</sup> The title page is also dated 1892.

The presumed third state/edition is bound in blue cloth with an elaborate rope-like design stamped in silver surrounding the title in silver within a black box on the front cover and spine (see Ex. 4). Copies with dated title pages of 1892 and 1899 were examined for this article. Numerous other editions have been noted including 1894, 1897 and 1901 printings. Apparently Penn Publishing quickly abandoned the first- and second-state bindings and utilized this third-state binding from late 1892 until the early 1900s when this title was removed from its catalogue.

Frank Gruber was the first bibliographer to differentiate between potential first and second editions. He described the first edition as being “pictorial stamped design in deeper brown and red of a boy rowing a boat on a mountain lake” and the second printing “also found in brown cloth binding with decorative scroll-work surrounding head and shoulder portrait of boy.”<sup>4</sup> He states that this conclusion was reached by studying type wear in both books but did not elaborate specifically on which portion of text was damaged.

As an interesting side note, Gruber once wrote to former society member Stanley Pachon regarding his expertise in printing. In a letter dated December 10, 1953, he opined about the primacy of certain Alger titles in hard and soft-cover editions. Gruber stated that “I must examine the type wear with a microscope, which is what I had to do in several other cases” and “only the study of type wear gives the answer. Fortunately, I was in the printing business at one time and can determine this.”

Notwithstanding Gruber's professed expertise in the study of type wear, his entry regarding *Wren Winter's Triumph* in his 1961 bibliography leads me to believe his statements about type wear to be spurious at best. Although acknowledging that *Wren Winter's Triumph* and *A Rolling Stone* are the same story, he states that “type-wear indicates *Wren Winter's Triumph* was [the] first printing.”<sup>5</sup> But this is incorrect as determined later by Ralph Gardner and Bob Bennett. The true first edition of this story is *A Rolling Stone*, published by Thompson & Thomas (in 1902) with perfect type in the upper right side of page 43; subsequent printings of both titles show

noticeable damage to the type on this page. Even a cursory examination of these two books would have revealed this defect and established the correct publishing sequence.

In 1964, Ralph Gardner, in his seminal Alger bibliography, described the true first edition as the boat binding.<sup>6</sup> He also described the first printing as placed in distribution sometime during July 1892, the same month as the copyright. Gardner mentions that “shortly after publication, Penn issued the book in a second state cover of brown cloth” and that it is “similar to [the] first state in [all] other respects.” Gardner did not note any examples of type wear in either edition.

Bob Bennett, in his 1980 and 1999 bibliographies, describes the boat binding as the first edition without mentioning other printings or editions. However, he does differ from Gardner in stating that the first edition must not contain any book advertisements at the rear of the book.

An examination of the advertisements in all three states at hand provides no clue as to publishing order as all three contain the identical set of five pages of ads for other Penn books. Since all of the titles listed in the ads were published in 1890 or 1891, then the inclusion of these advertisements would not appear to be a critical factor in determining priority. It should be noted, however, that the first page of advertisements is printed on the verso of the last page of text (page 369) as an integral part of the signature.

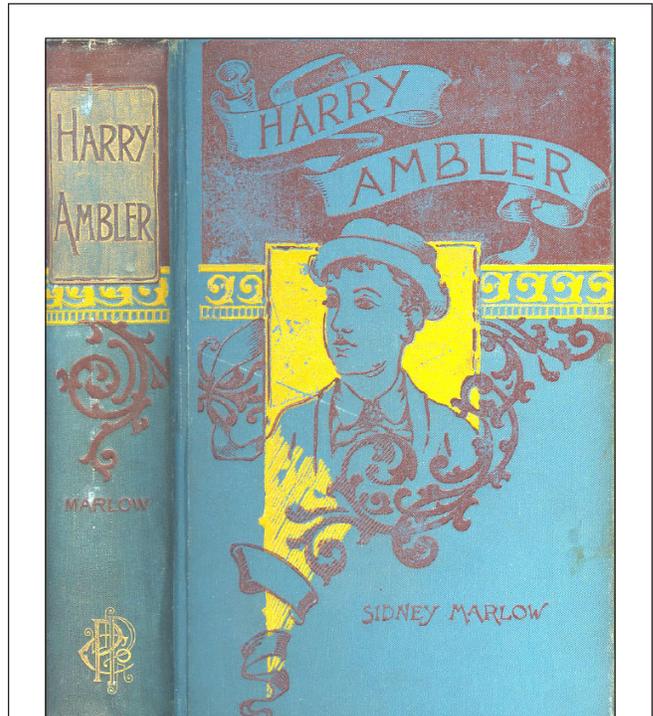
Bennett asserts that the first issue should not contain any advertisements, which would indicate no less than two printings of the text (or at least the final signature). When the verso of page 369 was printed with an advertisement for Alger’s *The Odds Against Him*, it was likely carried forward in later printings until the signature containing the ad was exhausted or when Penn management decided to promote other titles.<sup>7</sup>

We know that the head binding existed before the boat binding as it was used in 1890 for *The Odds Against Him* (see Ex. 5). A copy with an 1891 title page has also been noted. This binding was also used for at least two other books shown in examples 6 and 7.

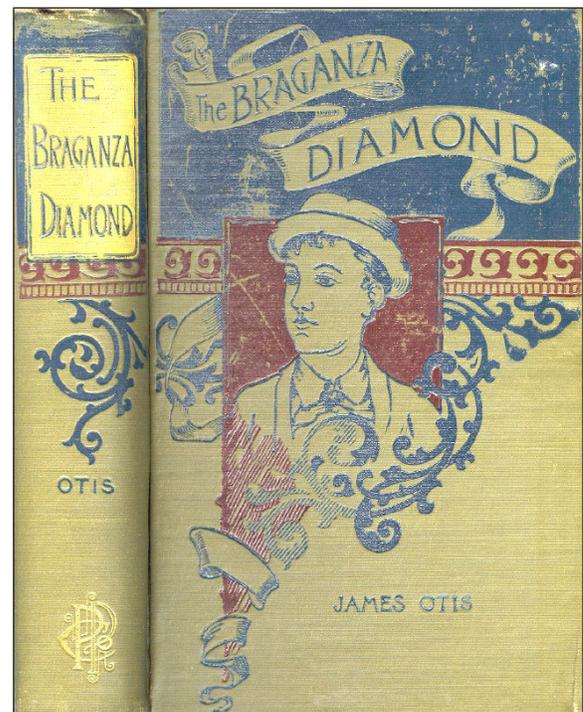
*Harry Ambler, or The Stolen Deed* by Sidney Marlow was issued in 1890 and *The Braganza Diamond* by James Otis was issued in 1891. These publications were likely first editions as the next known editions of *Harry Ambler* and *The Braganza Diamond* were published in 1897 and 1899, respectively. Penn Publishing later reissued *Harry Ambler* in 1917 and 1918 in its standard cheap binding and reprinted *The Braganza Diamond* in 1918 and 1927.

The consensus among some collectors is that the first issue of *The Young Boatman* used the head binding as that cover was already available. When that binding was

(Continued on Page 10)



Ex. 6: This 1890 edition of *Harry Ambler* contains advertisements for *The Odds Against Him* and another title from Sidney Marlow.



Ex. 7: This edition of James Otis’ *The Braganza Diamond* from 1891 contained no advertisements. Ads were inserted in later editions.

## The publishing priority of Alger's *The Young Boatman*

(Continued from Page 7)

depleted, a new cover was designed and printed (the boat binding) and the second state was released. But this hypothesis is flawed — if the bindery had used up all of the head covers then it would have been much easier to produce additional copies instead of designing a new binding. It seems more plausible to assume that Penn created an original cover for its second Alger book (something actually relating to the story) and then used any left-over covers for later issues.

Penn issued a third edition of *The Odds Against Him* in 1892 using the boat binding (see Ex. 8) and also an edition using the blue cloth with silver stamping. So it is evident that Penn was using the same binding for multiple titles and authors.

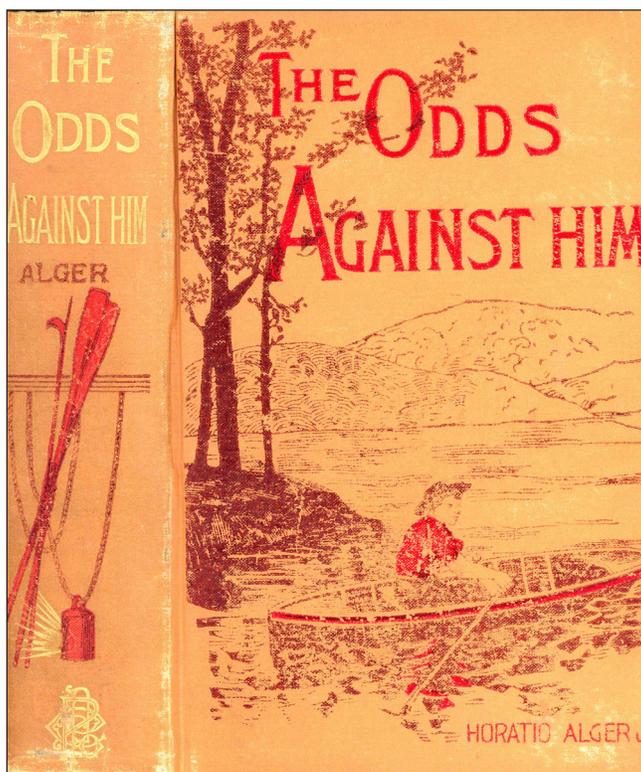
Given the tendency of Penn Publishing to issue books in a variety of bindings in quick succession, we must turn to an examination of type wear to determine publishing sequence. Although there are multiple instances of common type damage across all three 1892 editions of *The Young Boatman*, there is one example of progressively worse damage. The letter “a” in the word “are” on the last line on page 207 is perfect in the boat binding (with and without advertisements), slightly damaged in the head binding and further damaged in the blue-cloth binding.

The lack of obvious type damage between editions could be indicative of two possible factors — either a large number of text blocks were initially printed and assembled and then bound into various covers as demand warranted or the number or printings of each edition was so small that the chance for type damage to occur was negligible. As most of the Alger titles issued by Penn are relatively scarce, I’m inclined to favor the latter theory.

The aforementioned three attributes might be considered inconclusive if evaluated independently. But the

fact that there were probably at least two printings of the text used in the boat binding (with the copy lacking advertisements occurring first and not repeated), a clear example of type wear differences and the presumption that Penn probably made an effort to design a unique cover for its newest Alger title leads us to tentatively conclude the boat binding is the true first issue.

*The author is indebted to Bob Sipes (PF-1067) for providing the illustration in Example 1 and to Lynne Thomas and Angie Schroeder at Special Collections, Northern Illinois University Libraries for providing the image in Example 8.*



**Ex 8: The third-state binding of Penn's first Alger title. Editions from 1892 and 1893 have been noted.**

### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Bob Bennett, *A Collector's Guide to the Published Works of Horatio Alger, Jr.*, Newark, Delaware: MAD Book Company, 1999, p. 132.

<sup>2</sup> Bennett, p. 132.

<sup>3</sup> Two variations of the P-P-Co monogram have been observed from Penn issues during the period 1890 through 1897. One example shows the second “P” to be narrow and completely contained within the first “P.” Another example shows a much larger second “P” extending outside the boundaries of the first “P.” The narrow monogram was noted in Penn issues every year from 1890 to 1897. The wide monogram was noted in 1890 and 1891 issues. As these two monograms were apparently used interchangeably, no

dating can be ascribed to them.

<sup>4</sup> Frank Gruber, *Horatio Alger, Jr., A Biography and Bibliography*, West Los Angeles: Grover Jones Press, 1961, p. 73.

<sup>5</sup> Gruber, p. 82.

<sup>6</sup> Ralph D. Gardner, *Horatio Alger, or the American Hero Era*, Mendota, Illinois: The Wayside Press, 1964, p. 481.

<sup>7</sup> An interesting transition copy is noted here. A head binding with the verso of page 369 blank and containing only two pages of advertisements (for *The Odds Against Him* and *Harry Ambler*) was examined. This edition was most likely a transition between the boat binding without ads and one with ads. There may be other variations.

Written for Gleason's Literary Companion.

## THE GOLDEN TEST.

BY REV. HORATIO ALGER, JR.

Lionel Harcourt at twenty-one became absolute master of quarter of a million. No wonder life looked bright to him. He had but to form a wish, and his purse enabled him to gratify it. Friends flocked around him, or such as the world calls friends. They ate his dinners, drank his wines, borrowed his money, flattered his taste, professed the warmest friendship, and he in the warmth of his heart and the singleness of his nature believed their professions, never suspecting what it was that made him such a favorite.

So two years passed. He has spent large sums; how large he did not know, for he kept his money transactions in the hands of a business friend.

One day he dropped into the office of his agent and called for a thousand dollars.

"You are spending monty fast, Harcourt," said his friend gravely.

"That's what money is meant for, isn't it?" said Harcourt lightly.

"Yes, but —"

"And I am liberally provided. It will take me a long time to spend quarter of a million."

"No, not at the rate you have been spending for the last two years."

"You don't mean that," said the young man seriously.

"Yes I do."

Have I exceeded my income?"

"Largely."

"How largely?"

"With the last two years you have got rid of a hundred thousand dollars. You can judge how long your money will last at that rate."

"Three years more."

"Four including interest."

"And then I shall be penniless?"

"Yes, if you continue; but tht I hope you won't do."

"And yet, said Harcourt, respectfully, "it has been so pleasant to gather my friends about me. Such warm-hearted pleasant fellows!"

His friend regarded him fixedly.

"You have perfect confidence in their friendship?"

"Yes."

"And you don't think they are attracted by your dinners and your readiness to lend them money or rather to give it, since not one in ten of your loans will ever be paid?"

"Of course I don't think so basely of them," said the young man indignantly.

"You think their friendship would be unchanged if you were to lose your money?"

"Certainly; you're a cynic, Mason, or you would never doubt it."

"Suppose you put them to the test," said his friend quietly.

"How do you mean?"

"This. Let me report that you have lost money by speculation — you know you lost by the Grand Combination Petroleum Company — shut up your establishment, give up your luxurious habits, come into my office as a clerk for a month, and see how your friends will stand the test."

The novelty of the plan struck Harcourt. It would be a clever mystification.

"I'll do it," he said promptly. "When shall I begin?"

"Next week. By that time the report will have got round. You mustn't forget yourself. Lay aside your fine clothes and dress yourself in accordance with your altered circumstances. Seek a cheap boarding place and we shall see what will be the result."

"Very well. You'll find I am right, and that I won't rely vainly upon the friendship of men such as Holton, Gray and Ponsonby."

"I hope you may be right. It will increase my respect for human nature."

The next day it was currently reported that Lionel Harcourt was a bankrupt. His extravagant living and unfortunate speculations had brought about this disastrous result. Everybody was surprised at first. His friends regretted the dinners they had lost, and the purse which had ever been open to them. How much more they regretted will appear in the sequel.

It was with rather singular feelings that Lionel Harcourt started to visit his friends, knowing that his bankruptcy had been reported.

He met Fred Bolton in the street.

"Ah, Bolton," said he, "how are you?"

"How are you, Harcourt?" said Bolton, but not with his usual cordiality. "Sorry to hear of your loss of fortune."

"Yes, it is unlucky, but I never valued money so much as friends. I am young and may get back my money."

"Yes, of course," said Bolton, in an embarrassed manner. I hope you will."

He had borrowed two thousand dollars of Harcourt only a short time before, which he didn't mean to pay if he could help it, though abundantly able. He was afraid Harcourt would

(Continued on Page 12)

"The Golden Test" was first published in *Gleason's Literary Companion* on Dec. 15, 1866 (Vol. VII, No. 50). It was subsequently reprinted in *Waverly Magazine* (Feb. 16, 1867) and *Gleason's Monthly Companion* (February 1880). This is its first appearance in *Newsboy*.

## THE GOLDEN TEST

*(Continued from Page 11)*

mention it, and he wanted to get away. In his loose, unbusiness-like fashion, Harcourt had neglected to take any acknowledgement of the money lent, and there was no legal proof of it.

"Of course, if I can help you in any way, I will," He said coldly. "I suppose you will be looking for a situation in some counting-room."

"Have you a vacancy in yours, Bolton?" asked Harcourt, beginning to understand for the first time the man whom he had feted and obliged.

"Well, no," said Bolton, "but I may hear of one somewhere."

"I won't trouble you. Mason has offered me a clerkship."

"Has he, indeed. You had better take it by all means."

"I don't know; I thought I might like to go into business for myself."

"But you would need capital."

"Yes, I know. But I have provided for all my debts, and have enough owing me to start me in a small business. Talbot owes me three thousand dollars, Gray one thousand, you two thousand, then there are some smaller sums."

"I owe you two thousand dollars? Surely you are mistaken."

"Not at all. A year since you borrowed a thousand."

"I repaid it. You have forgotten."

"And three months since you borrowed a thousand. Both are still due."

"then you have my notes?"

"None were given."

"I regret to say you are under a misunderstanding. I owe you nothing; but if a loan of fifty dollars will be of service —"

"It will not," said Harcourt haughtily. "I bid you good morning, sir. There has indeed been a misunderstanding. I thought you my friend; I discover my mistake."

"Lordly airs for a bankrupt!" said Bolton to himself. "He can't prove the debt, and I can't afford to let two thousand dollars go when I can just as well retain them."

Harcourt, indignant and disappointed at Bolton's baseness, kept on his way until he reached Talbot's store.

"Is Mr. Talbot in?" he inquired of one of the clerks.

"I will go and see."

"Who is it?" said Talbot, who was reading the newspaper.

"Mr. Harcourt."

"Tell him I am particularly engaged," was the reply.

The answer was carried to Lionel.

"Does he know who it is?"

"Yes sir; he inquired."

Lionel smiled slightly and left the store.

He caught sight of his friend Gray on the other side of the street.

"Oh, Gray, good morning!"

"Good morning," said Gray, half cordially, curious to know the particulars of his friend's ruin. "What is this I hear? Are you really bankrupt? Shan't you save anything?"

"My debts are all provided for luckily, and I shall have clear the money I have leebt out. I believe you —"

"Excuse me, Harcourt," said Gray hurriedly. "There's a man opposite I wish particularly to speak to."

And he turn away, fearful of what was coming.

"All alike," said Harcourt bitterly. "I couldn't have believed it. And yet these men have eaten at my table and proffered the greatest friendship for me. Ha, who comes here? It is Miss Ridgely. I wonder whether she will act in the same way."

Miss Ridgely was a fashionable young lady, who for the last three months had laid violent siege to Lionel's heart. He was not in love with her, but might have been flattered into offering himself if his prosperity had continued.

Miss Ridgely made a very slight and cold inclination, ignoring Lionel's evident intention to speak to her.

"She, too!" he said to himself. "This repays me for all. I might have been fool enough to marry her and so wrecked my happiness."

That was enough for one day. Lionel was convinced that his friend was right, but he was resolved to carry out his original plan and keep up the show of poverty for a month.

The next Monday he went into Mason's office, a clerk on six hundred dollars salary, as he took care to have it understood. He obtained board at a cheap boarding-house, and entered upon a new life. Every day he met his old friends in the street. They just acknowledged his bow and no more. Lionel looked after them with a quaint smile.

"I am glad," he thought, "that my eyes are opened at last."

So things continued for a month. But one morning, Bolton and Talbot, walking arm in arm, were almost paralyzed with astonishment at encountering Harcourt driving up the street in a stylish turn out, behind a handsome pair of bays. Lionel was elegantly dressed, never in his life had he looked brighter or handsomer.

"Good heavens, is that Harcourt?" asked Bolton.

"Let us speak to him," said Talbot. "Come and dine with me to-day. I've been meaning to ask you for some time."

"So have I," said Bolton. "Dine with me to-morrow."

"Thank you gentlemen, both," said Harcourt. "Unfortunately, I shall be otherwise engaged."

Just then Miss Ridgely passed, and seeing the fine equipage smiled sweetly, but with a surprised look.

Within twenty-four hours all Lionel's friends had come back to him. They endeavored to make up for past coldness by the warmth of their professions. But he had learned a lesson by which he was resolved to profit. The friends who had deserted him were henceforth treated as mere acquaintances. He lived handsomely as his wealth enabled him to do, but his surplus thousands were no longer lavished upon selfish parasites, but bestowed judiciously upon such as needed it.

# John W. Lovell's Rugby Edition: *An introduction*

By William R. Gowen (PF-706)

Three of the most sought-after first editions by Horatio Alger, Jr., *The Young Acrobat*, *Number 91* and *Tom Tracy*, the latter two titles under his "Arthur Lee Putnam" pen name, originated as serials in Frank A. Munsey's *Golden Argosy*. The three titles were later collected into book form in Munsey's *Popular Series for Boys and Girls*, the 22-title series beginning in August 1887 and ending in late 1889. These orange-covered paperbacks are the elusive goal of first-edition Alger collectors as well as collectors of Harry Castlemon, Frank Converse, Edward S. Ellis, and other well-known authors.

The three above Alger titles (along with six additional first-edition Alger titles, *\$500*, *Ned Newton*, *Mark Stanton*, *The Erie Train Boy*, *A New York Boy* and *Dean Dunham*, appeared between May 10 and July 12, 1890 in Frank and John Lovell's *Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance*, launched in late 1889.

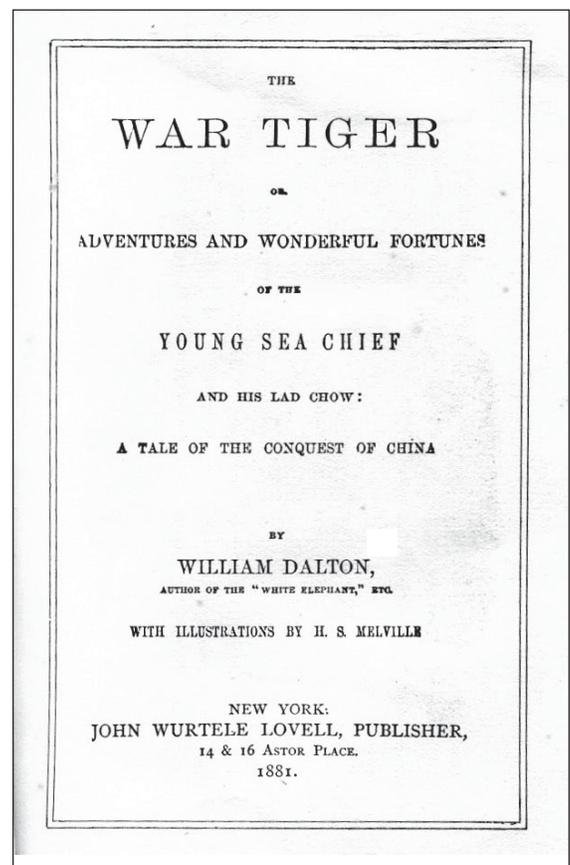
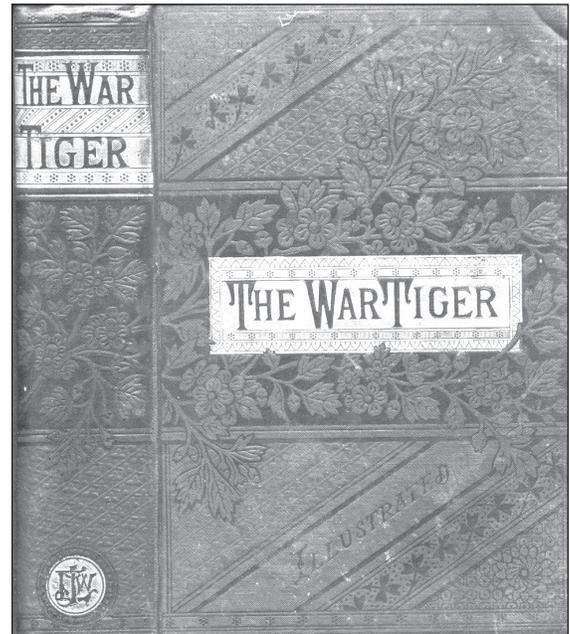
The evolution of Frank Munsey's early publishing ventures and the founding of the John W. Lovell Company led to the short-lived attempt at forming a monopoly "book trust" among inexpensive-edition publishers. This led to the creation of the United States Book Company in July 1890 and its successor, American Publishers Corporation, in 1893. This is discussed in Robert E. Kasper's article, "The Frank A. Munsey-John W. Lovell Connection and their Alger Paperbacks," in the July-August 2002 *Newsboy*. Readers are directed there (including the article's cited sources) for additional details of this complicated and confusing history.

At about the same time as their appearance in the *Leather-Clad Tales of Adventure and Romance*, *The Young Acrobat*, *Number 91* and *Tom Tracy* saw their first hard-cover appearances in John W. Lovell's Rugby Edition, books handsomely bound in numerous colors with the titles printed in black on gold backgrounds on the front cover and spine.

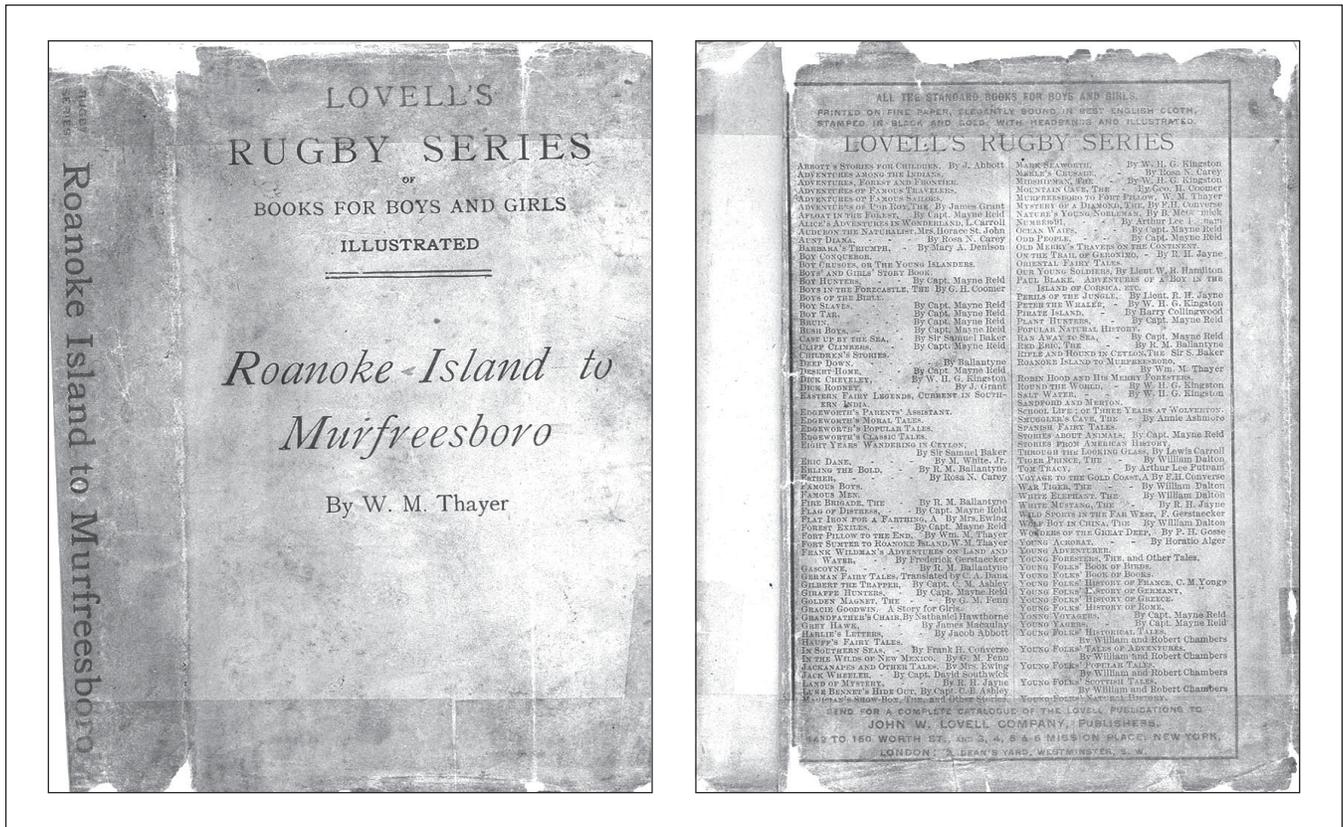
This brief article will attempt to elaborate on the Rugby Edition, clearing up a few misconceptions and assisting the collector with format information. We have arbitrarily chosen "Rugby Edition" in describing these books because those are the words appearing in small letters at the base of the spine. It is also known as "Lovell's Rugby Series," as seen on the dust jacket reproduced on Page 14. Thus, both terms are correct.

When John W. Lovell moved to New York in 1878 to become

*(Continued on Page 14)*



The 1881 precursor to John W. Lovell's Rugby Edition had the same cover design except for the "JWL" monogram blindstamped within a circular gold spine logo, with "John Wurtele Lovell, Publisher" plus date on the title page.



A very scarce dust jacket for a W. M. Thayer title published in John W. Lovell's Rugby Edition. Because the list of books on the reverse of the jacket is difficult to read here, a copy of the four advertising pages from George Manville Fenn's *In the Wilds of New Mexico* is provided as an insert with this issue.

Dust jacket images courtesy of Arthur P. Young (PF-941)

# John W. Lovell's Rugby Edition: *An introduction*

(Continued from Page 13)

an independent publisher, he used the imprint "John Wurtele Lovell, Publisher." Before his first business failed in late 1881 (he came back in the guise of "John W. Lovell Company" the following year), he issued reprints of books (many from English sources) using the cover design now familiar to collectors of the Rugby Edition.

This intricately designed cover incorporates a relief-image floral-and-vine design overlaying several horizontal and diagonal geometric patterns and symbols, impressed into the cloth against a dark background. The title is centered in black letters on a 1 1/8 x 3 5/8-inch gold *cartouche* (also having geometric patterns), centered on the front cover. The title is also printed in black, on a decorative gold panel at the top of the spine.

What sets the 1881 John Wurtele Lovell cover apart from the later Rugby Edition of the 1889-90 period is the

interlocking "JWL" monogram, in black, centered on a one-half inch circular gold logo at the base of the spine.

The title page has, in capital letters, "New York:/John Wurtele Lovell, Publisher/14 & 16 Astor Place/1881."

The books were also printed on heavy paper, which makes them thicker than the later Rugby edition titles.

In addition to books by English authors for young people, reprints by American authors such as James Fenimore Cooper, have also been observed in this 1881 edition. These books were produced before the advent of international copyright laws.

When the true Rugby Edition appeared in the 1889-90 period, John Lovell resurrected the bindery plates for the 1881 cover design. Note that during this period, Lovell produced books (fiction and nonfiction) using several different cover designs. For instance, Lovell's later James Fenimore Cooper reprint titles were now published in a new cover, similar but distinct from the original 1881 flowers-and-vines design.

For the Rugby Edition cover, the gold spine logo with interlocking "JWL" monogram was replaced by "Lovell" in block letters blind-stamped onto a black circular logo.

The words "Rugby Edition" appear in tiny block letters, the words split left and right, below the logo.

The title page is also different. It shows, in capital letters, "New York/John W. Lovell Company/150 Worth Street/Corner Mission Place." There is no date.

What titles are available in the Rugby Edition? The rear panel of the dust jacket on Page 14 advertises 120-plus books, but since the titles are difficult to read, enclosed with this article is an insert listing 124 titles, copied from four advertising pages found in George Manville Fenn's *In the Wilds of New Mexico*.

**But beware!** This list may not be accurate. Ongoing research by Bob Sipes shows only a portion of these 124 titles have been observed so far in Rugby Edition bindings. Incidentally, Bob's ongoing research also includes all the publishers discussed here, along with U.S. Book Company and/or American Publishers' Berkeley Edition, St. Nicholas Series, etc. Hopefully, this complex puzzle may some day edge toward a solution.

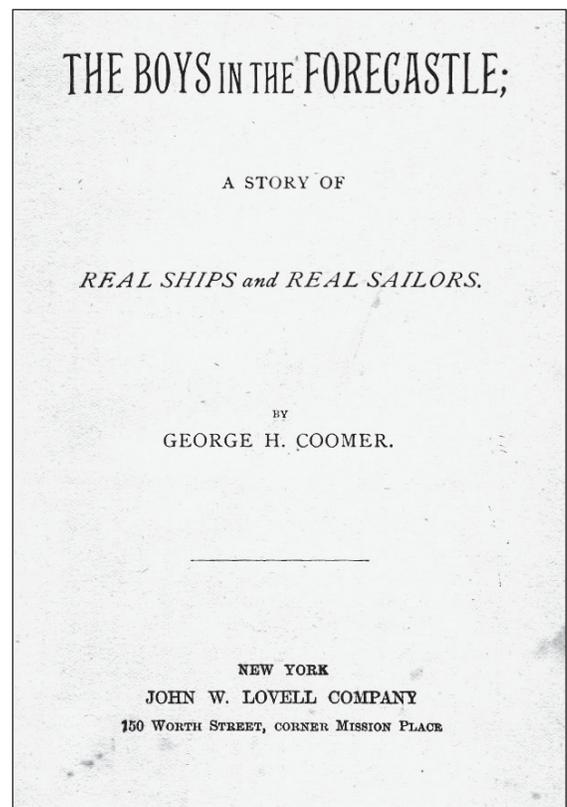
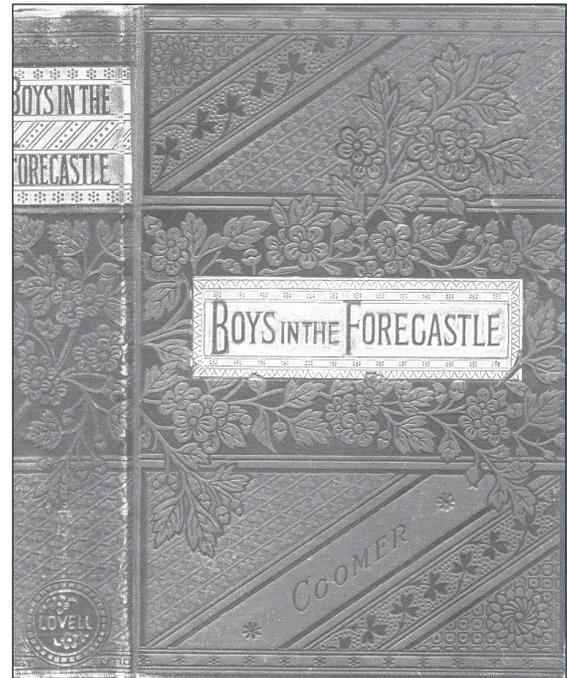
So, it seems likely many of these titles were produced in John W. Lovell or Frank F. Lovell publications aside from the Rugby Edition. For example, in late 1889, Frank F. Lovell produced, in his **Wild Adventure Series No. 1**, three hard-cover first editions by Edward S. Ellis written under his "Lieut. R.H. Jayne" pseudonym, *The White Mustang*, *The Land of Mystery* and *On the Trail of Geronimo*; along with three titles by Frank H. Converse in its second **Wild Adventure Series**: *Voyage to the Gold Coast*, *The Mystery of a Diamond* and *In Southern Seas*. Yet, these books appear in the advertisement for the Rugby Edition. Neither Sipes nor this writer has observed any of the six in a Rugby Edition, thus supporting the theory that the promotional list of 124 books probably includes numerous non-Rugby titles.

We should note that some of the 1881 John Wurtele Lovell "thick edition" books made their way into the later Rugby Edition. One of those was William Dalton's *The War Tiger*, shown in its earlier edition on Page 13.

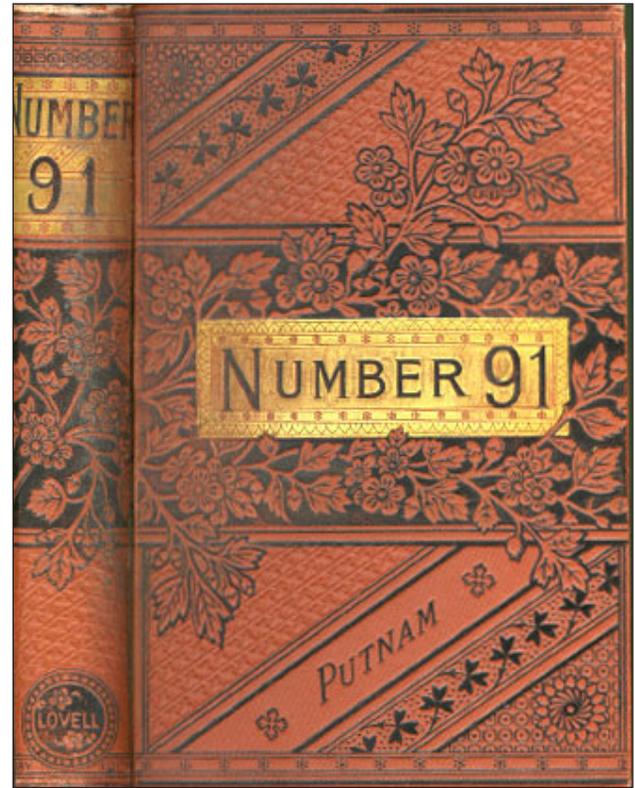
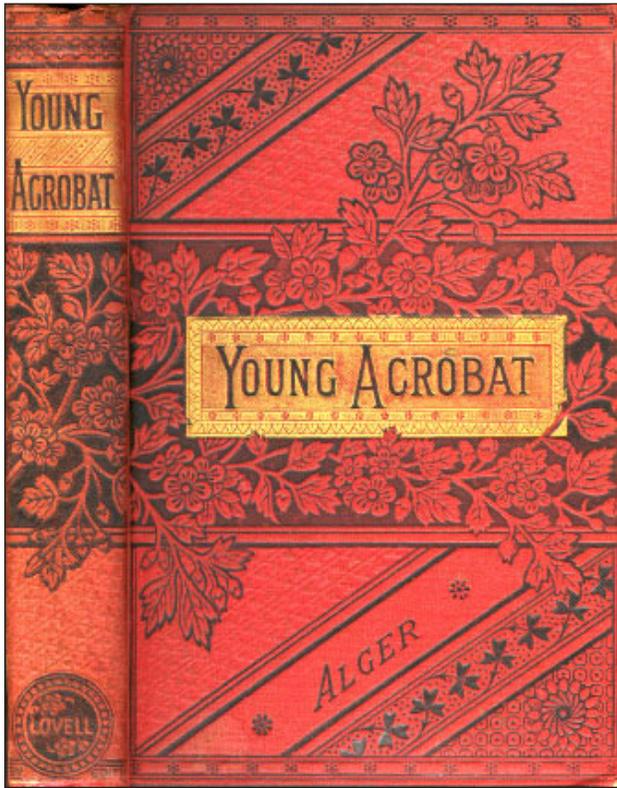
But for collectors of Horatio Alger, be assured the Rugby Edition represents the first hard-cover appearance of *The Young Acrobat*, *Number 91* and *Tom Tracy*. Other first hard-cover titles in the Rugby Edition include *Nature's Young Noblemen* by Oliver Optic (William T. Adams) under his "Brooks McCormick" pseudonym; and Harry Castlemon (Charles Fosdick), whose *Gilbert the Trapper* and *Luke Bennett's Hide Out* both appear under his "Captain C.B. Ashley" pen name. Examples of the Alger and Castlemon Rugby Editions are on Page 16.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

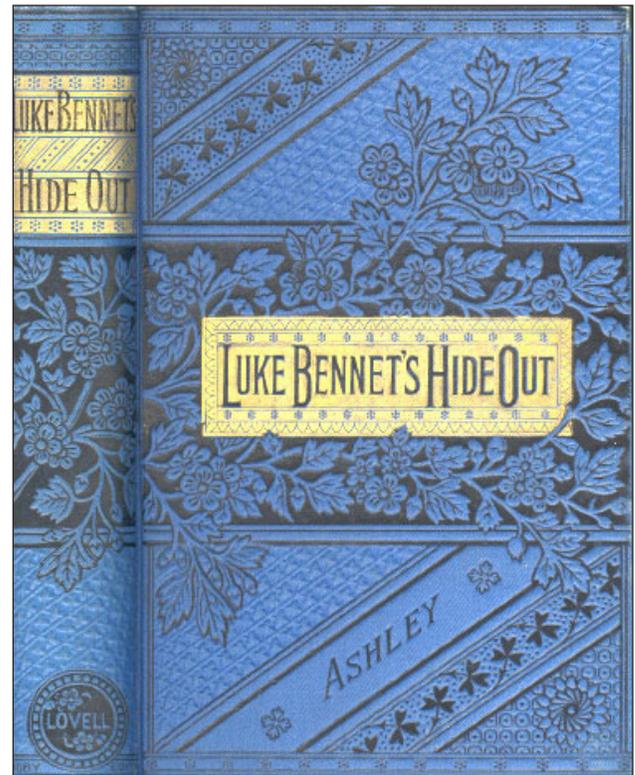
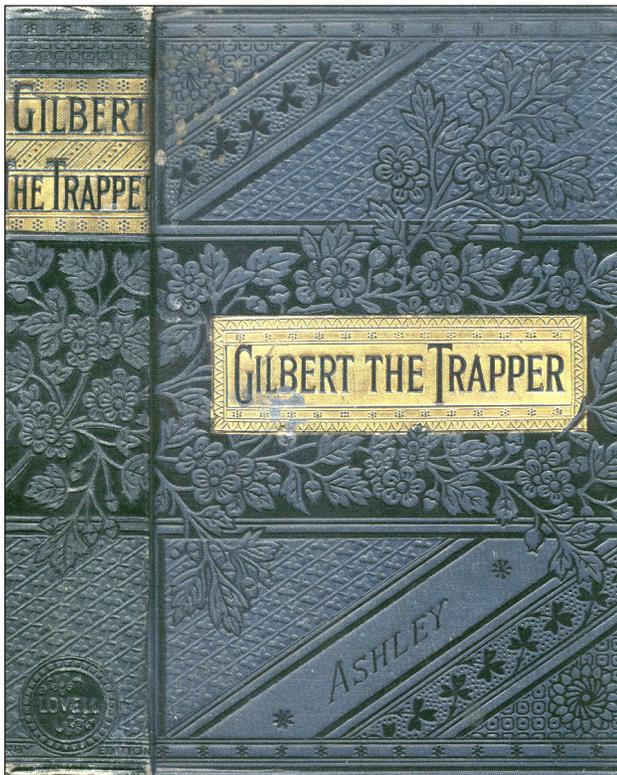
*The author is indebted to Robert E. Kasper (PF-327) for the images of the two Horatio Alger hard-cover first editions on Page 16; to Arthur P. Young (PF-941) for the dust jacket images on Page 14, and to Bob Sipes (PF-1067) for access to his work-in-progress spreadsheet/matrix listing all known titles in the series and formats discussed in this article. Bob hopes to report on his findings in a future article for Newsboy.*



The Rugby Edition has **LOVELL** within a circular black spine logo with "Rugby Edition" printed in very small block letters underneath. The undated title page states "John W. Lovell Company," with a new business address.



Two of the three Horatio Alger first hard-cover printings published in John W. Lovell's Rugby Edition.



The Rugby Edition included two Harry Castlemon titles, both under his "Captain C.B Ashley" pen name.