



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 LIII

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2015

NUMBER 1

2015 convention preview:

'Fame and Fortune in Columbus'



The State House, Columbus Ohio.

Photo by Bill Gowen

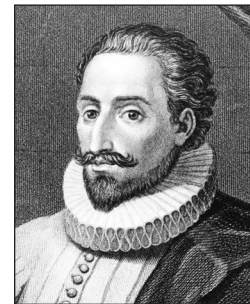
- ❖ *Convention preview*
- ❖ *Registration form*
- ❖ *Hotel information*
- ❖ *Schedule of events*

-- See Page 3

One of Alger's earliest published articles:

Cervantes

-- See Page 11



President's column

I enjoy reading about book collectors and book collecting generally, not just in our special niche. One recent find was Wilmarth Lewis, *Collector's Progress* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1951). My copy is autographed by Lewis, who charmingly writes on the flyleaf that he "Discovered" it on a friend's bookshelf, with the inscription "inserted surreptitiously" by Lewis when no one was looking.

In this wonderful memoir he recounts his progress from mildly interested novice to single-minded builder of the world's leading grouping of books, manuscripts, and artifacts by and associated with the eighteenth-century author and antiquarian Horace Walpole, the whole now housed in a museum and research institution connected to Yale University. Lewis aptly describes the thrill of the chase and at one point (p. 44) perceptively recalls a moment when, "Although I did not realize it, I had reached the fork in the road that leads, on the one hand, to specialized collecting and, on the other, to general collecting. The decision is usually made instinctively. As a ten-year-old collector of stamps I had specialized in the Hawaiian Island Provisional Government Issue of 1893. Now I was at the fork in the road again. Should I pursue the broad highway that continued to English literature in general or turn off on the narrow, weed-grown road that led to Horace Walpole?"

Change "English literature" to "boys' books" and "Horace Walpole" to "Horatio Alger" or some other author (and drop the overly diffident "weed-grown") and the decision will be familiar to all of us. Many readers of this journal are specialized Algerites, while some of us are general collectors, and of course either option is interesting and fulfilling. It does occur to me that the dichotomy is not quite as clear-cut as Lewis suggests. I would by most standards be classified with the general collectors, but, with rare exceptions, no one can really try to collect every title, much less every publisher or every format, for 19th or 20th century hardcover boys' books. General collectors instead often string together multiple sub-collections, more or less focused or definable depending on how disciplined they are. They might concentrate on a single publisher, like Altemus, or a single subject, like World War I or baseball or aviation, or a single class of authors, such as the output of the Stratemeyer syndicate.

I am notoriously lacking in discipline, and so my col-

(Continued on Page 4)

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.

OFFICERS

JEFF LOONEY	PRESIDENT
RICHARD B. HOFFMAN	VICE-PRESIDENT
BARRY SCHOENBORN	TREASURER
ROBERT G. SIPES	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DAVID J. YARINGTON	(2015) DIRECTOR
KENNETH BROADIE	(2015) DIRECTOR
ROBERT M. PETITTO	(2015) DIRECTOR
JACK BALES	(2016) DIRECTOR
ROBERT D. EASTLACK	(2016) DIRECTOR
LYNDA STRAUS	(2016) DIRECTOR
MARLENA E. BREMSETH	(2017) DIRECTOR
JAMES KING	(2017) DIRECTOR
JOSEPH STRANG	(2017) DIRECTOR
LEO "BOB" BENNETT (1932-2004)	EMERITUS
RALPH D. GARDNER (1923-2005)	EMERITUS

PAST PRESIDENTS

KENNETH B. BUTLER	ROBERT E. KASPER
JACK ROW	MARY ANN DITCH
DR. MAX GOLDBERG	JOHN CADICK
STEVE PRESS	CARL T. HARTMANN
JUDSON S. BERRY	ARTHUR P. YOUNG
LEO "BOB" BENNETT	CAROL NACKENOFF
JERRY B. FRIEDLAND	ROBERT G. HUBER
BRADFORD S. CHASE	ROBERT R. ROUTHIER
ROBERT E. SAWYER	MICHAEL MORLEY
EUGENE H. HAFNER	LAWRENCE R. RICE
D. JAMES RYBERG	ROBERT G. SIPES
GEORGE W. OWENS	BARRY SCHOENBORN
WILLIAM R. WRIGHT	

Newsboy, the official newsletter of the Horatio Alger Society, is published bi-monthly (six issues per year). Membership fee for any 12-month period is \$25 (\$20 for seniors), with single issues of **Newsboy** \$4.00. Please make remittance payable to the Horatio Alger Society.

Membership applications, renewals, changes of address and other correspondence should be sent to **Horatio Alger Society, 1004 School St., Shelbyville, IN 46176**.

Newsboy is indexed in the Modern Language Association's International Bibliography. You are invited to visit the Horatio Alger Society's official Internet site at www.horatioalgersociety.net.

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, 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

2015 convention preview:

'Fame and Fortune in Columbus'

By Bob Huber (PF-841)

The 2015 Horatio Alger Society convention, "Fame and Fortune in Columbus," will be held on April 30-May 3, 2015 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Columbus, Ohio. Located 2½ miles west of Port Columbus International Airport, and just off Interstates 670 and 270, the Courtyard by Marriott-Columbus Airport Hotel has 150 guest rooms, heated indoor pool, exercise room, free Internet connection, and complimentary shuttle service to the airport.

The hotel rate is \$125 plus tax, and reservations should be made directly with the hotel at Courtyard by Marriott-Columbus Airport Hotel, 2901 Airport Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43219, (614) 475-8530. **Please identify yourselves as being with the Horatio Alger Society to get the discounted rate, and make your reservation by Wednesday, April 1st. After that, the group rate is not guaranteed.**

The registration fee for the 2015 convention is \$115. The official reservation form and schedule of events are enclosed with this issue of **Newsboy**.

Our informal activities for Thursday include registration (including free refreshments) in the hospitality room; the annual Board of Directors meeting and dinner on our own. Information on area restaurants will be available.

Following breakfast on our own, the official schedule begins at 9 a.m. Friday in the hotel meeting room, located just off the main lobby. Host Bob Huber and H.A.S. President Jeff Looney will make welcoming remarks, followed by our annual presentations. We have three excellent speakers lined up for Friday morning: Bill Gowen will be discussing "Harold M. Sherman — Boy Sports Books and Much More"; Bob Petitto will address "Collecting Optic: Mystery, Discovery and Conjecture"; and Carol Nackenoff will speak on "The Crusade to Get Children Off the Streets in Alger's Era."

Our annual business meeting will follow the speakers,



Schmidt's Sausage Haus and Restaurant, located in Columbus' historic German Village, will be the location of Friday's buffet-style dinner. Photo by Bill Gowen

followed by lunch (provided). After lunch, the annual consignment/donation auction in the hotel meeting room will feature a variety of first editions, quality reprints, and related ephemera from several different collections. We hope to have more details in the March-April **Newsboy**.

Our Friday dinner will be held at Schmidt's Sausage Haus and Restaurant in the German Village district, located on the southern edge of downtown Columbus. Schmidt's, dating back to 1886, is operated by the fifth-generation descendants of founder and family patriarch J. Fred Schmidt. Our buffet-style dinner will be held in a private room. Schmidt's is located at 240 East Kossuth Street, and the historic German Village is noted for its brick-paved streets and meticulously restored businesses and private homes.

Following breakfast on our own, Saturday will begin with the annual H.A.S. book sale in the morning, with the rest of the day available for lunch on our own, sightseeing and book-hunting.

Saturday evening will feature the annual H.A.S. banquet, which will be held at the 84th Aero Squadron restaurant, located a short drive from the hotel near the

(Continued on Page 5)

Editor's notebook

Enclosed with this issue are the registration form and schedule for "Fame and Fortune in Columbus," the Horatio Alger Society's 51st annual convention, which will be hosted by Bob Huber. Following last year's spectacular "Adrift in Annapolis," this marks the second straight year we will be visiting a state capital.

Please glance at the schedule for April 30-May 3, and you will notice Bob has plenty of activities lined up, along with a large period of free time on Saturday afternoon to visit book stores, antique malls or many of the historic places of interest in Columbus. Make your hotel reservations directly to the Courtyard by Marriott-Columbus Airport to receive special group rate. Just mention that you are with the Horatio Alger Society. The street address of the hotel is 2901 Airport Drive, just off Interstates 270 and 670.

I want to put in a plug for the site of our Friday night dinner — Schmidt's Sausage Haus and Restaurant, in Columbus' historic German Village on the city's south side. We will have a private room for our buffet-style dinner, which will include many of the well-known German and American specialties for which Schmidt's has a national reputation. I visited Schmidt's in October and can vouch for the great atmosphere and food. German immigrant J. Fred Schmidt opened the restaurant in 1886, and it is now operated by the fifth generation of his family.

I have not visited the 84th Aero Squadron restaurant (site of our Saturday night banquet), which is short drive from our hotel adjacent to the airport, but Huber describes it as similar to the 356th Fighter Group Restaurant, where we held our Friday dinner when Bob hosted the 2011 convention at North Canton, Ohio. We will use car-pooling to transport us to both restaurants.

There are several used bookstores in Columbus, but — no surprise — not nearly as many as years ago when

(Continued on Page 10)

Official H.A.S. address

Mail all dues and other inquiries to:

Horatio Alger Society
1004 School St.
Shelbyville, IN 46176

President's column

(Continued from Page 2)

lection is broad and diffuse, with new sub-specialties likely to crop up every time I visit a bookstore and see something new and interesting to me. But the same competitive drive that inspires many collectors lurks within, and I find ways to take pride in areas where I have amassed groupings that can stand comparison with those of anyone else. This often means building choice but very narrow sub-sub-collections. For example, my brother and I between us have a collection of the works of Stephen W. Meader that is probably one of the more complete and varied ones anywhere. On the other hand, despite years of collecting the even larger output of Ralph Henry Barbour, larger and better collections can probably be found even in the ranks of our membership. But if we restrict our focus to Barbour's 15 or so adult romances, mostly published by Lippincott, my holdings at least approach preeminence, with all of the titles, most of the formats, some inscribed copies, and five of the scarce decorative boxes in which the earlier volumes were issued. In other cases one can narrow the focus to individual titles and exult in owning the very best copy extant of the book in question.

In a subsequent column I will discuss the points that might enable one to make such an extravagant claim. Meanwhile, I am already making my plans to attend the upcoming convention in Columbus, and hope that you are doing the same. Please read convention host Bob Huber's article on Page 3, fill out the enclosed registration form and plan to join us April 30-May 3!

Your Partic'lar Friend,
Jeff Looney (PF-903)
1712 Concord Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22901

MEMBERSHIP

New address (corrected name)

David Hoven (PF-1112)
3150 W. Calhoun Blvd., #403
Minneapolis, MN 55416

New address

John A. Cook (PF-1078)
414 Wilma Dr.
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-2355

'Fame and Fortune in Columbus'

(Continued from Page 3)

airport. After the **Strive and Succeed Award** presentation to an area high school student and the annual H.A.S. awards, keynote speaker Bob Sipes will present "A Boy's View of the Civil War."

There are many places of interest in Columbus and central Ohio, including the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Center of Science and Industry (COSI), Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Ohio History Center, Ohio State House, the Ohio State University campus, the Thurber House and above-mentioned German Village.

The Columbus Museum of Art has an outstanding collection of late 19th and early 20th-century American and European modern art, with excellent examples of Impressionism, German Expressionism, and Cubism. There are exceptional regional collections such as the largest public collection of woodcarvings by Columbus folk artist Elijah Pierce and the world's largest collection of paintings and lithographs by Columbus native George Bellows, who is widely regarded as the finest American artist of his generation.

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium extends over nearly 90 acres and includes more than 575 species and 10,000 animals. African, Australian, Asian and North American animals are all represented.

Make hotel reservations directly to the Courtyard by Marriott-Columbus Airport at 1-614-475-8530. Tell the desk you are with the Horatio Alger Society to receive the special group rate.



The Center of Science and Industry features more than 300 interactive exhibits designed to teach science at all age levels through play. Some of the concepts covered include the ocean, outer space, energy, engineering and health.

The Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens includes the 12,500-square-foot glass Palm House built in 1895, with more than 400 plant varieties, a bonsai collection, and a 28-acre botanical garden.

The Ohio History Center chronicles Ohio's role in wars from the War of 1812 through World War II, with an emphasis on the Civil War. Ancient history of First Ohioans, natural history, and Ohio's progress in agriculture and industry are all extensively covered.

Originally established in the 1800s by German-speaking settlers, German Village consists of 233 acres of restored houses, parks, gardens, shops, and restaurants. Memorabilia and drawings by James Thurber, author, humorist, cartoonist and playwright,

can be seen at his restored 19th-century home.

There are over 30 antique shops and malls in greater Columbus, with the largest being Heritage Square Antique Mall, the Greater Columbus Antique Mall, and Finders Keepers Antique Mall. Open-shop used/antiquarian book stores in Columbus include Acorn Bookshop, Karen Wickliff Books, the Village Bookshop, and Half Price Books. Hoffman's Bookshop is by appointment only.

Just a short ride west of Columbus yields the Heart of Ohio Antique Center and Springfield Antique Center, both enormous antique malls 40 miles away just off Interstate 70 in Springfield, while Kubik Fine Books is an open shop in nearby Dayton.

More information on area places of interest will be available at registration on April 30.

Hope to see all of you there!

(Continued on Page 7)

STRIVE AND SUCCEED AWARD

*The Horatio Alger Society appreciates the generosity of its members in donating to the H.A.S. **Strive and Succeed Award** fund. The **Strive and Succeed Award** is presented each spring at the annual convention to a deserving high school senior to help defray his or her college expenses. The following Partic'lar Friends made contributions during calendar year 2014:*

Jack Bales (PF-258)

Thomas A. Bayless (PF-294)

Bernie Biberdorf (PF-524)

James Broderick (PF-912)

Lyle F. Buchwitz (PF-1065)

Ralph J. Carlson (PF-955)

Bradford S. Chase (PF-412)

Robert Collmer (PF-866)

Milton F. Ehlert (PF-702)

Edward Evans (PF-1000)

Douglas E. Fleming (PF-899)

John Fogarty (PF-1022)

Fred Fox (PF-909)

Robert George (PF-489)

William R. Gowen (PF-706)

R. J. Hatfield (PF-615)

Samuel T. Huang (PF-963)

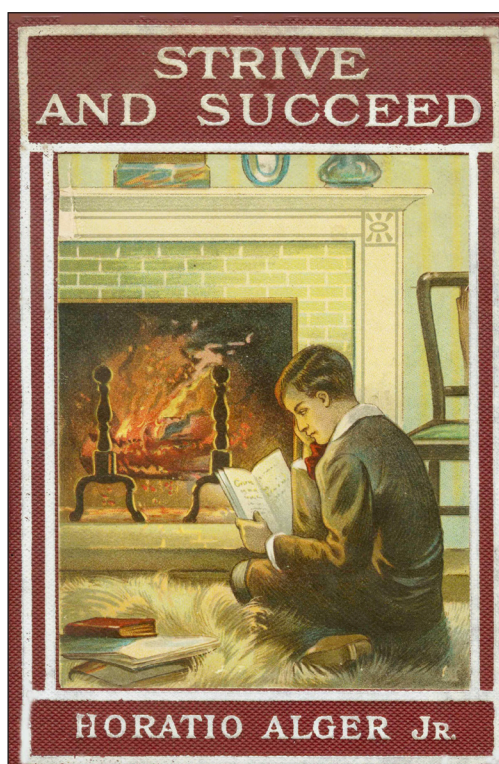
Gordon W. Huber (PF-843)

Robert G. Huber (PF-841)

John R. Juvinall (PF-537)

Robert L. Kersch (PF-946)

James King (PF-1126)



Thomas P. Kline (PF-1054)

Jeff Looney (PF-903)

Martin Mueller (PF-1020)

Carol Nackenoff (PF-921)

Wally Parsons (PF-896)

Robert Petitto (PF-1086)

Lawrence R. Rice (PF-757)

William D. Russell (PF-549)

Robert G. Sipes (PF-1067)

Arthur W. Smitter (PF-952)

Dean C. Steele (PF-661)

Joseph K. Strang (PF-1090)

Lee Switzer (PF-882)

Jim Thorp (PF-574)

Peter C. Walther (PF-548)

Arthur P. Young (PF-941)

H.A.S. sustaining members:

Jack Bales (PF-258)

Ralph J. Carlson (PF-955)

Bradford S. Chase (PF-412)

Robert George (PF-489)

Richard B. Hoffman (PF-570)

Robert E. Kasper (PF-327)

Jeff Looney (PF-903)

David Moulton (PF-541)

Carol Nackenoff (PF-921)

Barry Schoenborn (PF-1087)

Robert G. Sipes (PF-1067)

Arthur W. Smitter (PF-952)

If you made an S&S donation in 2014 and your name does not appear on this list, contact us at 1004 School St., Shelbyville, IN 46176 and we will list it in the March-April Newsboy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bill:

I would like to thank the members of H.A.S. who sent me cards following the passing of my wife, Tamie, on November 25th. The sympathy cards were very much appreciated. We have been married for 47 years.

Tamie grew up in wartime Japan, and was a survivor of the atom bomb on Hiroshima on August 6th, 1945.

She was a wonderful person, we enjoyed going to flea markets and used book stores. Again, thank you all for the kind words and cards.

Best wishes,
Bill Russell (PF-549)
240 E. County Line Road
Apt. F-4
Hatboro, PA 19040

Dear Bill:

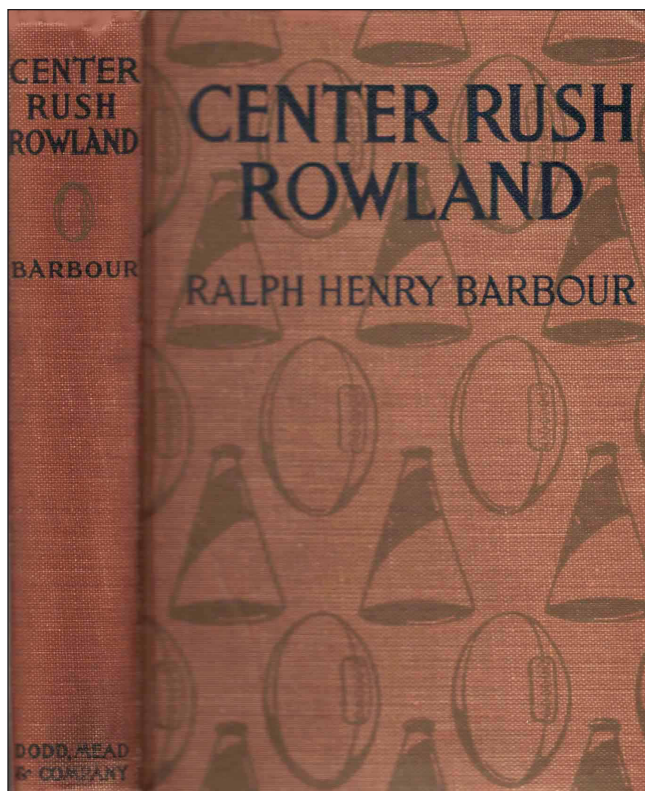
Believe it or not, this title from Ralph Henry Barbour's Football Eleven Series (*Ed.: shown at right*) was hiding on a shelf of Tomlinsons (at the left end, where the shelving overlap covered it up). I'm sure I thought it was a common G&D, but check it out: it's Dodd, Mead all the way. Apparently, Dodd premiered this format before disposing of the series to G&D. The format is not in Mattson and Davis, and I can't recall ever seeing one before.

This may have been a trial run by Dodd, which failing to revive sales, was sold off to Grosset & Dunlap. Maybe only one printing. One thing is sure: Grosset used it but did not design it. Any thoughts?

Bart J. Nyberg (PF-879)
4657 Mason St.
Omaha, NE 68106
E-mail: lewarcheaol.com

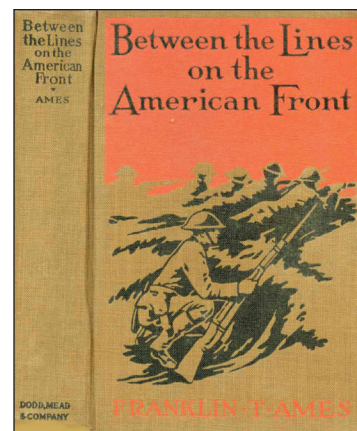
Dodd, Mead and Company did the same with the Stratemeyer Syndicate's *Between the Lines Series*, a three-volume World War I series (1915-19) written by St. George Rathborne under the "Franklin T. Ames" house name.

The initial format produced by Dodd, Mead for the first two volumes (both 1915), is similar in quality to the *Football Eleven Series*, using deluxe cloth and having a blind-stamped illustration (in this case, a cannon). The Barbour series used dark brown cloth with blind-stamped footballs and megaphones, while the *Between the Lines Series* came in dark green cloth. Dodd, Mead then carried this cover design over when it reissued the titles in cheaper cloth with the cover



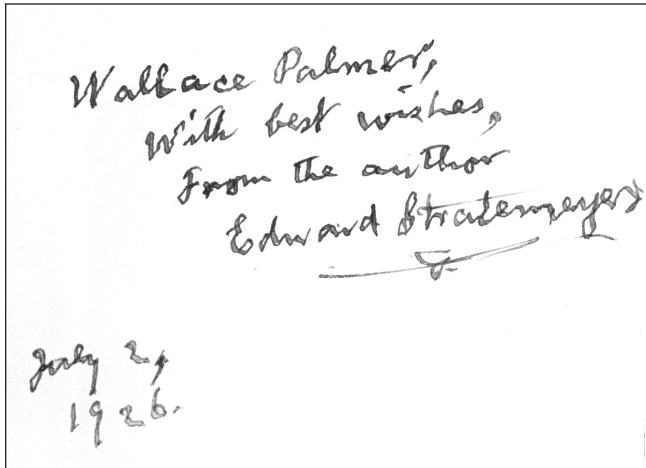
Late Dodd, Mead printings of these titles from Ralph Henry Barbour's Football Eleven Series, above, and the Stratemeyer Syndicate's *Between the Lines Series*, below. The printing plates and cover dies for both series were later used for reprint editions published by Grosset & Dunlap.

illustration now in dark brown and orange. The third title, *Between the Lines on the American Front* (1919), shows several American soldiers in a trench instead of a cannon on the front cover, an obvious reflection on the entry of American "doughboys" into the war in 1917. One of my copies is bound in dark tan illustrated cloth by Dodd, Mead, so identified on spine and title page (above).



A second copy of this title in my collection is bound in gray cloth (same illustration) but published by Grosset & Dunlap. Both books have G&D dust jackets of the same design, the central portion of the front panel reproducing a photograph (wrapping to the spine) of American troops on bivouac in France during the final year of the war.

(Continued on Page 8)



A 1926 inscription from Edward Stratemeyer to Wallace Palmer in a copy of *The Rover Boys on Sunset Trail*. Note the deterioration of Stratemeyer's handwriting, four years prior to his 1930 death.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 7)

Dear Bill:

Recently I have had the pleasure to add some interesting items to our collection that were once in the library of a fellow Partic'lar Friend, Wallace Palmer (1911-2000). As a youth he became a fan of authors like Alger, Stratemeyer and Kelland. Palmer (PF-612) began to correspond with Edward Stratemeyer in 1925 and he received replies on at least four occasions. On the third reply I have from the Stratemeyer Syndicate Records at NYPL dated July 2, 1926, Stratemeyer wrote:

My dear young friend:

Your letter of recent date to hand and also two books of mine which you asked me to autograph. I have written in each of them and returning them to you by parcel post to-day.

The two books were *Dave Porter in the South Seas* in the "Special Edition" reprint with a dust jacket illustrated by R. Emmett Owen, and *The Rover Boys on Sunset Trail*, a first printing in DJ.

There's much more to say about Wallace Palmer, including the several articles he wrote about Stratemeyer, his desire to write Stratemeyer's biography, and his offer to buy the Syndicate in 1930. That's probably a topic for a future article.

James D. Keeline (PF-898)
5707 Spartan Dr.
San Diego, CA 92115

Dear Partic'lar Friends:

Some of you may listen to radio as I often do when I happen to be getting an early start at 6:45 a.m., when my local NPR station plays Garrison Keillor's daily "Writers' Almanac." On Monday, January 12, he included this item on Horatio Alger's birthday.

Jan. 13 birthday: Horatio Alger, Jr.

"It's the birthday of dime novelist Horatio Alger, Jr. (books by this author), born in Chelsea, Massachusetts (1832). His father was an extremely strict Unitarian minister. He wouldn't let Horatio do anything other than study and pray, and always under his supervision. His father pressured his son to follow in his footsteps as a minister, so the boy went to Harvard Divinity. He wasn't passionate about it and after graduation he left for Paris, where he got to spend a year living in relative freedom, without his father's watchful presence. When he came home, the Civil War had broken out. He tried to



Garrison Keillor

join the Union Army but he had terrible eyesight and he was only 5 feet 2 inches, so he was rejected.

"He went ahead and became a minister after all, but his career didn't last long. He was forced to resign after he was accused of having sexual relationships with several boys in his congregation. His influential father managed to cover things up just fine, but that was the end of his career in the ministry. So he turned to writing dime novels for boys, and hit on a huge success with his Ragged Dick series.

"Over the course of his life, Alger wrote more than 500 novels and short stories, most of them virtually interchangeable. They all featured young, virtuous street urchin boys who saved up their money while other boys gambled it away, and then did something impressive that attracted the attention of rich older men, who became their benefactors and taught them how to prosper in the world of business and the upper middle class.

"Horatio Alger is credited with popularizing the "rags-to-riches" theme of American literature. And even though he didn't get much literary respect for his books, and he himself couldn't even remember all the titles, he wrote so many books and they were all so successful that he is considered one of the best-selling writers of all time."

Sincerely,
Richard B. Hoffman (PF-570)
2925 28th St., NW
Washington, DC 20008

BOOK REVIEW

Joseph L. Rainone and E.M. Sanchez-Saavedra: *The Illustrated Dime Novel Price Guide Companion*. Almond Press, ©2014. 218 pages, 8½ x 11, glossy color softcover binding. Profusely illustrated, documenting more than 300 dime novel series. Special H.A.S. member price \$35 (includes shipping); non-member price \$45, plus \$5 shipping. Make check payable to Joseph Rainone, and mail to 1631 Kenneth Ave., Baldwin, NY 11510-1602.

Reviewed by Robert G. Sipes (PF-1067)

The stated objective of this book is to “provide a visual account of the actual dime novels and story papers as presented in *The Dime Novel Companion: A Source Book*, by J. Randolph Cox. As a collector and reader of dime novels and story papers, I am very familiar with Cox’s *Dime Novel Companion*, as it has been considered the primary reference book since it was published in 2000. However, the one glaring gap in *The Dime Novel Companion* is the lack of images to accompany the more than 1,200 informative entries.

The *Illustrated Dime Novel Price Guide Companion* (IDNPGC) in no way replaces Cox’s *Dime Novel Companion*, but for the dime novel and story paper enthusiast, this book is a welcome and complementary necessity. The IDNPGC, compiled and edited by Joe Rainone (PF-1124) and E.M. Sanchez-Saavedra (PF-788) provides a fantastic visual display over the course of 218 pages of dime novels, story papers, authors, publishers, collectors, characters, and more. Nearly every page has at least one illustration, some with many more.

This book highlights the visual appeal of the dime novel and story paper illustrations; those brilliantly colored, action-packed covers that in the past compelled readers to buy and in the present compels collectors to continually add to their collections.

The IDNPGC is not all about the imagery, but also provides great information about the history of dime novels, the publishers, the characters, and the topics. The IDNPGC provides sketches of dime novel publishers, including: T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Robert Bonner, Street & Smith, Frank Leslie, Robert DeWitt, Beadle & Adams, George Munro, James Elverson, Norman Munro and Frank Tousey.

Dime novels come in many varieties to accommodate the various interests of their readers. These varieties include Adventure & Daring, American Indians, American Revolution, Crime/Bandits Outlaws & Highwaymen, Civil War, Comics/Humor, Detective & Mystery, Frontier & Western, Pirates & Privateering, Science Fiction & Fantasy, Sports, and Success Stories (Horatio Alger and



similar). Each genre is described through topics, authors, fictional and historic characters with a sample of series and titles presented as examples.

Just as today’s young readers have Harry Potter and the mainstay Hardy Boys, the young readers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries had many serialized fictional and historical characters to choose from, including Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill Hickok, Jesse James, Wild West, and The Young Wonder of Wall Street.

Some of these characters appeared in upwards of 100 issues and a few in hundreds of issues. Sketches of many of the more popular characters are provided and include some of those already mentioned, along with Deadwood Dick, Frank and Dick Merriwell, Jack Harkaway (interestingly an English character pirated by U.S. publishers), Frank Reade, Jack Wright, Old Sleuth and Nick Carter.

An important section describes the attributes that make up a “key” issue; namely, visual appeal, subject matter, character popularity, rarity, and condition. This discussion sets the stage for the rarity classification and pictorial price guide that encompasses 70 pages of the book. Multiple images accompany each series along with length of run, dates of run and publisher. Value is always subjective and is truly determined by actual sale prices;

(Continued on Page 10)

BOOK REVIEW

(Continued from Page 9)

however, this guide provides a good basis for value with a rarity classification. There is also a [too] brief presentation of ultra-rare series and highly-desirable issues that could be expanded with more details.

The objective of this book is to provide a visual account of dime novels and story papers, to stimulate the senses, and to pique the interest of collectors, not to provide an

academic dissertation. This book absolutely meets the stated objective. The information is presented in a light and interesting style always accompanied with vivid and entertaining images.

The rarity classification and price guide is an added bonus, that while subjective, provides a good basis for determining value. For dime novel collectors, this book is a "must have"; for the boy's series collector, this book presents the predecessor and companion to boy's series books and provides a new, vivid, and exciting genre to collect.

Editor's notebook

(Continued from Page 4)

Bob attended medical school there. He will have a list available in the hospitality room, and he mentions the names of several of the dealers and shops in his preview article. Some have regular hours and others are by appointment.

If you are into antiques, the nearby city of Springfield, Ohio (40 miles west), has two huge malls, with Heart of Ohio Antique Center at I-70 Exit 62 and U.S. Route 40, billed as "America's Biggest and best!" Go to heartofohioantiques.com for more information. Springfield Antique Center is at 1735 Titus Road, I-70 Exit 59. Wear comfortable shoes, because the two places boast more than a combined 1,000 dealers, including several booksellers.

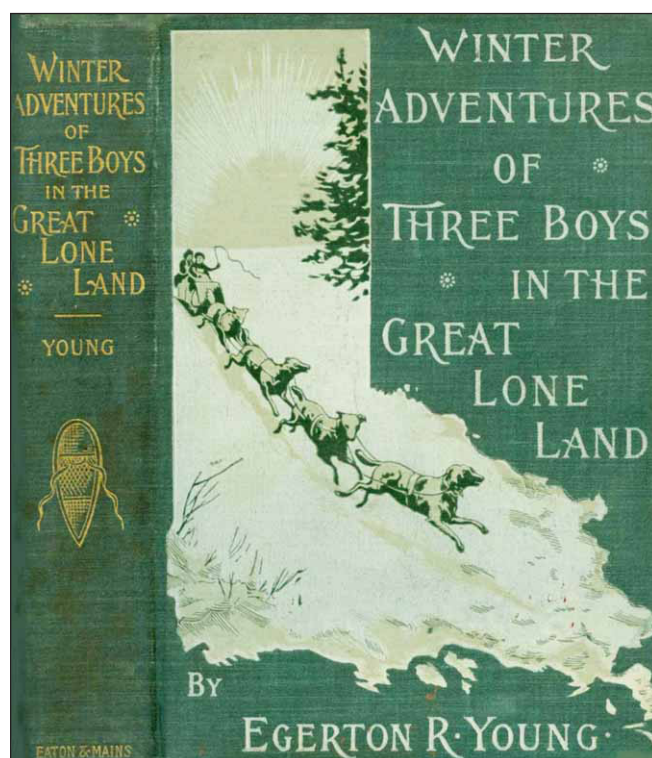
In this issue: You will notice that in addition to Bob Huber's convention preview, we have included our 2014 list of donors for the annual **Strive and Succeed Award**, presented each May at the annual convention to a deserving high school student.

Also for your reading pleasure is one of Horatio Alger's earliest published articles, "Cervantes," which first appeared in the November 1849 issue of **Pictorial National Library**, when Alger was a sophomore at Harvard. This is the first time it has been published in **Newsboy**.

Executive Director Bob Sipes offers a review of *The Illustrated Time Novel Price Guide Companion*, the work of Partic'lar Friends Joe Rainone (PF-1124) and E.M. Sanchez-Saavedra (PF-788). This is a very important publication for dime novel enthusiasts, and it is an excellent companion to *The Dime Novel Companion: A Source Book*, by J. Randolph Cox (PF-598).

We have also included several Letters to the Editor, which I feel are important for our membership.

My main contribution is a sketch on Canadian author Egerton Ryerson Young, who wrote a two-volume boys'



adventure series in addition to 11 known other books, most of them nonfiction and dealing with the Native Americans of Canada, in particular the Cree and Salteaux Indians. Although "preachy" at times (Young was an ordained Methodist minister), the books contain a wealth of information, not only about Canadian Native Americans but of dogs and dogsledding.

Bart Nyberg (PF-879) shared with **Newsboy** numerous details about the books, including formats, themes and publishers. Extremely hard to find (most of them date from the 1890s), several years ago Bart had the good fortune of buying a near-complete collection.

Because the two-volume **Three Boys Series** is our main interest, an image of the cover of the second volume is shown above, because lack of space precluded its inclusion with my article, which begins on Page 13.

One of Alger's earliest articles

Cervantes

Introduction: Reprinted here for the first time in *Newsboy*, is an early Horatio Alger, Jr. effort issued in *Pictorial National Library*, a short-lived Boston monthly periodical. This periodical was promoted as "A Monthly Miscellany of the Useful and Entertaining in Science, Art and Literature" containing copious engravings.

Cervantes, published in the November 1849 issue during Alger's sophomore year at Harvard, represented his third foray with this publication. A short article titled *Chivalry*, was published eight months earlier in the March 1849 issue and the poem *Voices of the Past*, was published in the June 1849 issue. These three appearances mark Alger's first acknowledged publications, although circumstantial evidence indicates he may have submitted items to several local newspapers when he was 16 years old.

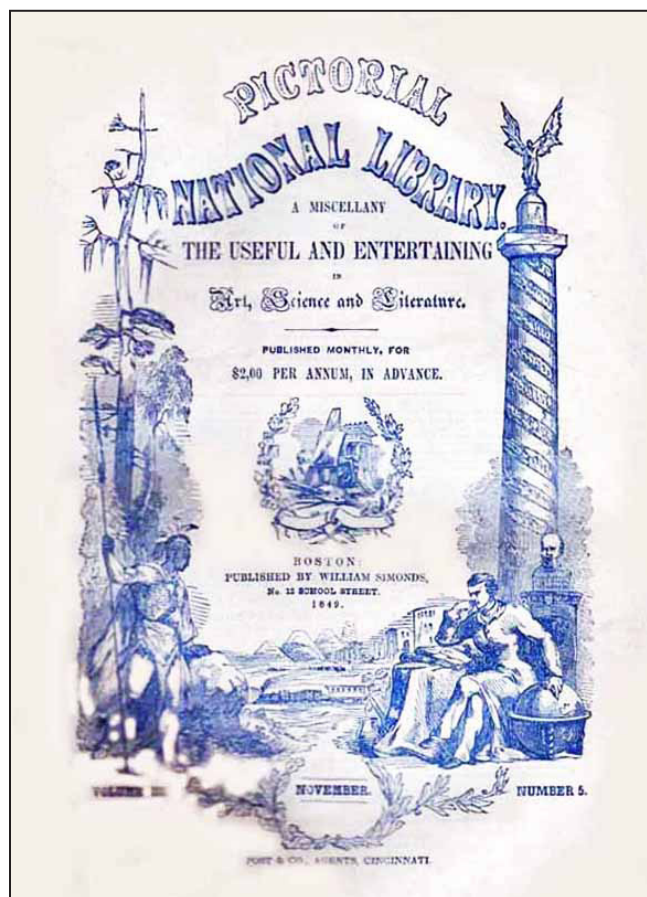
Alger's connection with this publication is unknown, although he was widely published in numerous Boston daily and weekly publications during the early 1850s.

Interestingly, the publisher of *Pictorial National Library*, William Simonds, authored six volumes of *The Aimwell Stories* using the pseudonym Walter Aimwell. These stories were written for juvenile audiences revolving around New England farm life. Alger was likely familiar with these stories that were published between 1853 and 1863. — **Robert E. Kasper (PF-327)**

* * *

MIGUEL DE CERVANTES SAAVEDRA was born in Alcalá de Henares, a town of New Castile, not far from Madrid, in 1547. Sprung from a noble but not wealthy family, his parents sent him at the age of seven years ago to the metropolis, being desirous that he should fix on some professional study; but this plan was thwarted by his irresistible inclination to poetry, which was encouraged by his teacher, Juan Lopez de Hoyos, under whom he studied ancient and modern literature. He was very fond of reading, and was in the habit of stopping at the book-stalls in the street, and perusing anything that attracted his attention. To this cause must doubtless be attributed that intimate knowledge of the old literature of his country which is displayed in his works. In this way he continued to spend his time, reading and writing verses, until poverty and the ill success of his poetry obliged him to quit Spain, at the age of twenty-two, and seek his fortune elsewhere.

He went to Rome, where he entered into the service of Cardinal Fulvio Aquaviva, but shortly afterwards enlisted as a private in the papal armament, under the command of Colona, in the war against the Turks and African corsairs. In 1571, he



fought in the famous battle of Lepanto, on which occasion he received a wound which for life deprived him the use of his left hand. On recovering from his wound, he joined the troops at Naples, then subject to the Spanish crown.

As he was returning to his country, he was taken by corsairs, and being carried to Algiers, was there sold as a slave to Dali Mauni, an Albanian *renegado*, notorious for his cruelty. Here he formed a successful plan for obtaining his freedom. He contrived to get out of the city of Algiers, and concealed himself in a cave by the seashore, near a garden belonging to a *renegado* named Hassan, whose gardener and another slave were on the scent. Here, being joined by several other Christian prisoners, he remained for several months, hoping that the speedy arrival of some vessel might free them from this dangerous situation.

Being betrayed by one of Hassan's servants, he was seized and loaded with chains; and, after a close examination by the Dey himself, he was returned to his master. After devising several other means of escape, all of which proved unsuccessful, he at last conceived the bold design of organizing a general rising of the Christian slaves in Algiers, and taking forcible possession of the town. This plot being betrayed by the cowardice of some of the conspirators, Cervantes was

(Continued on Page 12)

Cervantes

(Continued from Page 11)

carried to the prison of the Dey, who declared that his capital and his ships were not safe, “unless he himself kept a close watch over the crippled Spaniard.” In 1580, through the exertions of his friends and relations, the Dey was induced to liberate him, his ransom being finally settled at five hundred golden scudi. At the beginning of the following year, he arrived in Spain.

He now determined to turn his attention to literary pursuits, and accordingly published, in 1854, *Galatea*, a pastoral novel. Shortly after the publication of this novel, he married Dona Catalina Palacios de Salazar. His increased expenses now obliged him to seek for more lucrative literary employment, and for the five years next succeeding he was chiefly employed in writing for the stage. In this period he composed twenty or thirty plays, which were performed at Madrid. He ceased to write for the stage about 1590, being supplanted by Lope de Vega, who was then rising in reputation, and was particularly qualified for this kind of composition.

Cervantes did not again appear as an author till after the lapse of ten years, when he produced a work which met with deserved success, and is by all considered his masterpiece — *Don Quixote*. The first part of this great work appeared in 1605, and seems at once to have become popular, since four editions were published in the course of the year. This great work is too well known to require criticism. It is one of those few productions which immortalize the language and literature to which they belong. Cervantes had in view, by this work, to reform the taste and opinions of his countrymen, by casting ridicule upon that adventurous heroism which, as the source of wild and extravagant tales of chivalry, then constituting the pastime of every condition, had exercised a pernicious influence on the minds and taste of the Spanish nation.

Cervantes had nearly completed the second part of *Don Quixote*, but, before he could put it to press, there appeared a spurious continuation of this great work, full of abuse against Cervantes. This was published at Tarragona, in 1614, by an unknown writer, under the name of Alonzo Fernandez de Avellaneda. The style was very inferior to that of the original, which it strove to imitate. Cervantes felt the injustice of this act, and revenged himself in the second part of *Don Quixote*, which was received with universal applause. But the extraordinary success of this work does not seem to have influenced his pecuniary circumstances, which remained at the same low ebb as before.

Other works Cervantes produced, remarkable both for their purity of language and the elegance of their style, but none has attained so extended a popularity, or contributed in so great a



Chapter I, Plate I of Gustave Doré's illustrations for the 1906 Cassell edition of Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quixote*: "A world of disorderly notions, picked out of his books, crowded into his imagination."

degree to their author's reputation, as *Don Quixote*. He died at the age of 68, April 23, 1616, in Madrid, which had been his residence during the last years of his life. It is a singular circumstance that Spain and England should have lost on the same day of the same year their greatest writer; for it was on this very day that Shakespeare died.

Thus died Spain's greatest writer, the brightest ornament of her national literature. Yet this great writer experienced neglect, the common fate of genius. Poverty, his constant companion through life, did not desert him in his last moments. While Spain is proud, as she well may be, of this great genius, she has never raised a monument to his memory. Not even a common tomb-stone marks the spot where repose the remains of the author of *Don Quixote* —

*"One of the few — the immortal names,
That were not born to die."*

H. Alger, Jr.
Pictorial National Library
1849

Editor's note: This article was submitted by Robert D. Eastlack (PF-557) for use in *Newsboy* due to its significance as one of the earliest published examples of Alger's writing.

Tales of the Great North

The books of Canadian author Egerton R. Young

By William R. Gowen (PF-706)

Series book collecting can yield some surprising discoveries, especially when a little-known two-volume series tucked away in the corner of a bookshelf seldom gets your attention.

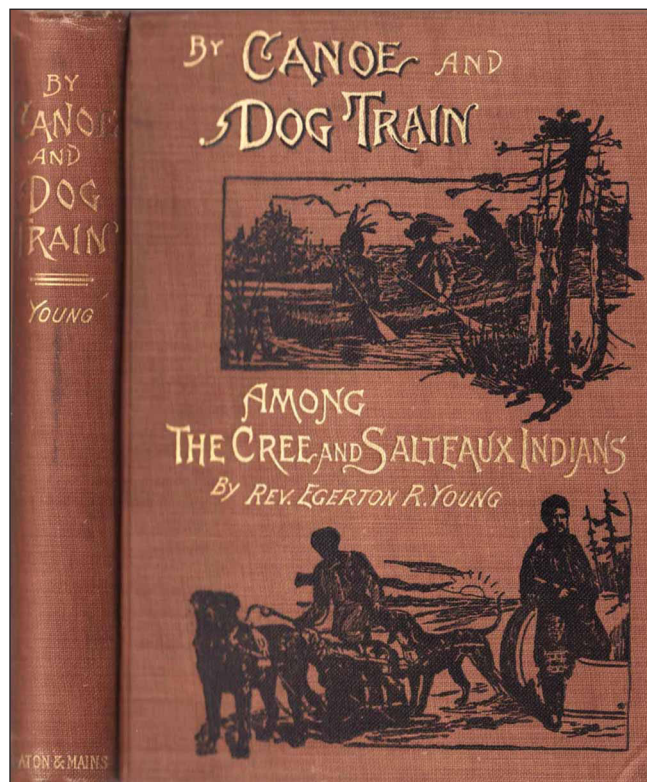
But this writer decided to check on such a series: the two books in the **Three Boys Series** by Canadian author Egerton Ryerson Young (1840-1909). I hate to admit this, but I paid \$65 for one of the books at a store in southern New Hampshire 10 years ago. Later, I found another copy of that title, *Three Boys in the Wild North Land: Summer*, for about half that amount, along with the second title, *Winter Adventures of Three Boys in the Great Lone Land*, for \$10. They were both by a publisher, Eaton & Mains, that was unknown to me at the time.

Eventually, I checked with fellow collector Bart Nyberg (PF-879), and he filled me in about the publisher, along with mentioning that Young had written about a dozen other books, all of them “singles,” and most being nonfiction studies of life among the Native Americans in Canada. Recently, Bart shared a wealth of information on Young’s 13 known books, providing the list on Page 14, along with several scanned images.

These books, the majority of which are nonfiction, are important to those desiring to learn about Native American customs and lore in the years just prior to and following the turn of the 20th century. By studying Indians of his native Ontario, along with forays into northern Manitoba and other provinces, he was able to witness North American Indians in their native settings.

Young’s first book, *By Canoe and Dog Train Among the Cree and Salteaux Indians*, was published concurrently in the United States and England in 1890. The American publisher was New York’s Hunt & Eaton, which around 1895 evolved into Eaton & Mains. The British publisher of this title was Charles H. Kelly. Various British publishers issued their own editions of the majority of Young’s books, likely because of his Canadian citizenship, the books’ locales and their potential sales in that territory.

Because Young’s first book lists the Salteaux and Cree tribal nations in its title, I thought the following Internet



Egerton Ryerson Young’s earliest known book, *By Canoe and Dog Train Among the Cree and Salteaux Indians*, was the first of several true studies of life and traditions of the Indians in his native Canada.

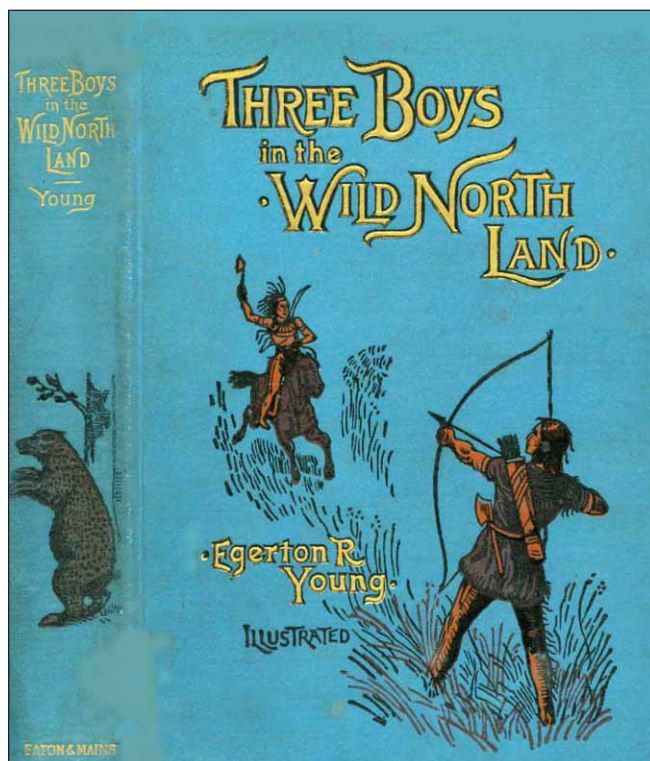
description would be helpful. Note that Young’s spelling is “Salteaux,” while the French-Canadian variation is “Saulteaux”:

The Saulteaux are a branch of the Ojibway nations. They are sometimes called the Anihšīnāpē (Anishinaabe). Saulteaux is a French term meaning “people of the rapids,” referring to their former location in the area of Sault Ste. Marie. They were primarily hunters and fishers, and had extensive trading relations with the French, British and later Americans in that region.

The Cree are one of the largest groups of First Nations/Native Americans in North America, with over 200,000 members living in Canada and many fewer in the United States. The major proportion of Cree in Canada live north and west of Lake Superior, in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Northwest Territories. About 38,000 live in Quebec.

Why was Young so interested in the natives of his country? The answer is religion. Like his father, Young was a Methodist minister, who after his ordination in 1867 decided to dedicate his life to missionary work among

(Continued on Page 14)



Three Boys in the Wild North Land, published in 1896, is the first of two volumes in Egerton Young's fictional **Three Boys Series**.

Tales of the Great North

(Continued from Page 13)

the native tribes. Several of the titles and subtitles of his nonfiction books mention spreading the Gospel.

Several others among his books involve dogs and dogsledding, a common mode of travel during the winter months in Canada. One of the books is titled *My Dogs in the Northland*, which we have discovered was published in Germany as translated into *Meine Hunde in Nordland*. One of Young's last books was *Hector, My Dog*, an anthropomorphic story.

Before briefly discussing the **Three Boys Series**, let's look at the life of Egerton Ryerson Young:

Young was born on April 7, 1840, in Crosby Township, described as in "upper Canada," but today actually eastern Ontario. He was the son of Rev. William Young and Amanda Waldron. He was married on Christmas Day in 1867 to the former Elizabeth Bingham of Bradford, Ontario, and they eventually had eight children, five of whom (four daughters and a son) survived infancy.

Young's first and middle names were not inherited, but taken from the well-known Methodist theologian Egerton Ryerson; however, formal religion was inherited since his father and an uncle, Solomon Waldron,

Books by Egerton R. Young (1840-1909)

1. *By Canoe and Dog Train Among the Cree and Salteaux Indians*. New York: Hunt & Eaton, no date, but introduction is dated March 1890. Evangelization of Native American Indians; nonfiction. UK edition pub. by Charles H. Kelly in 1890. Reissued by Methodist Book.

2. *Stories from Indian Wigwams and Northern Campfires*. New York: Hunt & Eaton, 1892. More stories of travel among the Indians promoting the gospel.

3. *Indian Life in the Great North-West*. London: S.W. Partridge and Co., no date. Apparently Indian folk tales.

4. *Oowikapun: or, How the Gospel Reached the Nelson River Indians*. New York: Hunt & Eaton, 1894. More Indian folk tales with a missionary theme. Reissued by Abingdon Press (likely the same publisher as Methodist Book); same date, cheaper edition.

5. *Three Boys in the Wild North Land: Summer*. New York: Eaton & Mains, 1896. Juvenile fiction; first title in two-volume **Three Boys Series**. Also reissued by Abingdon/Methodist.

6. *On the Indian Trail, and Other Stories of Missionary Work Among the Cree and Salteaux Indians*. New York: Fleming H. Revell, 1897 (1st Ed.); Eaton & Mains, 1897 (2nd Ed.).

7. *Winter Adventures of Three Boys in the Great Lone Land*. New York: Eaton & Mains, 1899. Juvenile fiction; second title in **Three Boys Series**. Also reissued by Abingdon/Methodist.

8. *Apostle of the North, Rev. James Evans*. New York: Fleming H. Revell, 1899. Assumed biography (I do not have this title).

9. *My Dogs in the Northland*. New York: Fleming H. Revell, 1902. Stories involving the author's dogs during his travels. The known German-language edition is titled *Meine Hunde im Nordland*.

10. *Algonquin Indian Tales*. New York: Fleming H. Revell, 1903. Stories collected by the author from Algonquin tribe members, with a letter from Charles Big Canoe (Keche Chemon), Chief of the Ojibways, Georgina Island, Lake Simcoe, Ontario, preceding the introduction. Copyright held by Young, as opposed to a publisher.

11. *Children of the Forest: A Story of Indian Love*. New York: Fleming H. Revell, 1904. Apparently fiction based on Cree lore. My copy inscribed by Young and dated Oct. 24, 1906 (see illustration on Page 16).

12. *Hector, My Dog; His Autobiography*. Boston: W. A. Wilde, 1905. Anthropomorphic tale.

13. *The Battle of the Bears: Life in the North Land*. Boston: W. A. Wilde, 1907.

Note: *This chronological list compiled with comments by Bart J. Nyberg (PF-879) from books in his collection.*



Dressed appropriately for the cold Canadian winter, Egerton Young as he appears in the frontispiece of his nonfiction book *My Dogs in the Northland*, published by Fleming H. Revell in 1902.

were itinerant Wesleyan Methodist preachers. Those connections exposed the youthful Young to the rural Evangelical Methodism of an itinerant church that later was the foundation of his career.

Young's mother died when he was two years old, and he was raised by his stepmother, Maria Farley. His schooling was completed in Bond Head, Ontario, and it is believed he began aiming toward a teaching career at age 18 or 19, with the Council of Public Instruction issuing him a teaching certificate at age 20 in June 1860.

Shortly thereafter, Young moved to Toronto for higher education at the Toronto Model School, learning nearly every course of study necessary for a long-term teaching career. It was during this time that he finally met his namesake, Egerton Ryerson, whom he noted was "the most popular man in Toronto."

Young's first teaching position came in 1861 at Madoc, eastern Ontario, where he was the sole teacher of a student body of 105. Enthusiastic at first, he soon became discouraged by the situation (lack of additional faculty), and in March 1863 he wrote: "The charm has gone and I care not how soon a change is made for something else."

Noting his lack of "spiritual progress," Young decided to follow the path of his father and uncle, saying "Sometimes, I think, what presumption for me to think of any higher sphere of action."

So, on May 19, 1863, he left his post at Madoc and received a probationary ministry with the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He went on to various assignments in neighboring communities through 1866.

On June 9, 1867 in Hamilton, Ontario, he was officially ordained, and he accepted the pastorate of the First Methodist Church in that port city. But soon, his career took its direction into missionary work, and in early 1868 he accepted the call to serve the natives of Rupert's Land. Joining a group of Wesleyans, Young and his new wife, Elizabeth, traveled by steamship, train and wagon to the Red River settlement in Manitoba, where they eventually took charge of the Rossville Mission and absorbed the culture of the Native Americans in the region.

In January 1869, Young started missionary work among the Cree tribe at Nelson House in Northern Manitoba, and it was there that his life's work really took flight.

His new mission drew an enthusiastic early response, and when he promised to hold a camp-meeting that September some 50 native families showed up to hear the Gospel. Soon, Young started a new mission among the Salteaux tribes of the Berens River region and after several visits there he obtained a native assistant, named Timothy Bear, to help with the teaching.

The settlement was so successful that in 1873 Young was officially assigned to develop the Berens River mission, including the construction of Norway House as headquarters. After a winter sojourn in Toronto, Young brought his wife back to the settlement and their two children, Egerton Ryerson Young, Jr., and Clarisa Maria Young, were born at Norway House.

Young's missionary assignments continued into the late 1880s, with Ontario locations including Port Perry, Colborne, Bowmanville and Meaford.

In May 1887, English theologian Mark Guy Pearse visited Young at Meaford, and noting his preaching and storytelling skills, encouraged him to use them in more widespread directions, which eventually led to Young's writing career. The final boost came in 1888 when, not pleased with the various Ontario pastorates offered him, he decided to make an extended lecture tour of the United States, which he repeated in 1889 in Great Britain.

Starting with his first book, *By Canoe and Dog Train*

BOOK MART

Huge collection of quality Alger books for sale

Please contact Eugene Bartlett (PF-790)
at PTL777anyway@live.com

An ad appeared in the November-December Newsboy listing my Alger collection for sale. A beautiful collection of deluxe reprints were untouched and are still available. Fill the holes in your collection. Request downloads for titles, descriptions and detailed condition for areas of interest.

- Serializations — Ragged Dick, Tom Brace (Arthur Lee Putnam) and \$500.
- Misc. first-edition publishers — 5 First Editions, including *The Western Boy*, *Bertha's Christmas Vision* and *Abraham Lincoln, the Backwoods Boy*.
- Penn — 7 books, including *The World Before Him* and *Young Musician* first editions.
- A.L. Burt deluxe books — 54 books in Chase's formats 1 to 10, including 6 First Editions.
- Loring — 44 books, including 12 First Editions, *Helena Ford*, *Rufus & Rose*, etc.

- Porter & Coates — 36 books, including 11 First Editions and beautiful reprints.
- Henry T. Coates — 41 books, including 7 First Editions and beautiful reprints.
- Ogilvie and Thompson & Thomas — 5 books, including First Edition of *A Rolling Stone*.
- Mershon, Stitt and Chatterton-Peck — 28 books, including 3 First Editions.
- Lupton and Lovell — *Ralph Raymond's Heir* and the first hard-cover of *The Five Hundred Dollar Check*.
- S&S paper covers — 5 Medal Library, 2 New Medal Library and 49 Alger Series.
- Deluxe hard-cover reprint publishers — 24 Caldwell, David McKay and S&S HC.
- Winston Library Series — 26 titles, many with bright gold spines.
- Recent publications — Book Club's *The Young Miner* and 19 First Editions (incl. Sawyer).
- Books of limited interest — 9 with dust jackets and 4 Hurst miniatures.

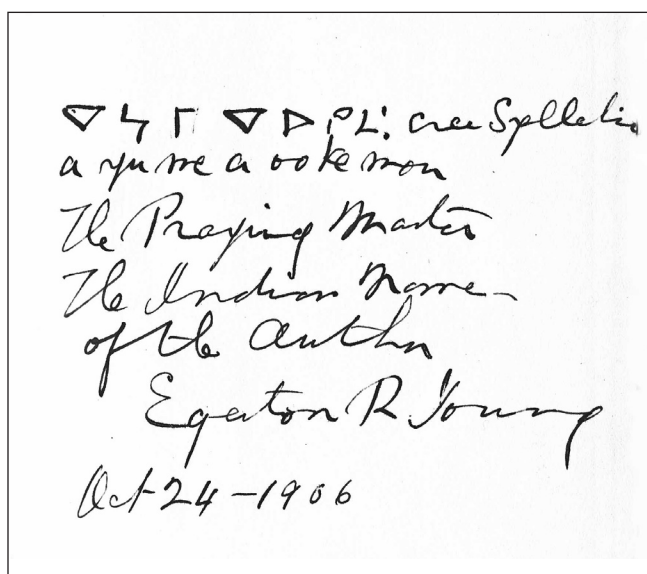
Tales of the Great North

(Continued from Page 15)

Among the Cree and Salteaux Indians the following year, Young's writing career spanned 18 years. In 1904 and 1905, Young and his wife traveled around the world, including Australia, where he stayed for several months lecturing and promoting sales of his books. Eventually, the family moved back to its home at Algonquin Lodge in his wife's native Bradford, Ontario.

Young died Oct. 5, 1909, in Bradford, and was buried in Bowmanville, a town 75 miles east of Toronto.

The **Three Boys Series** is Young's lone example of juvenile series fiction. The stories follow the boys of the titles — Frank, a native of Liverpool, England; Alec, from Scotland; and Sam, from Dublin, Ireland — in their adventures while hunting and fishing, dogsledding, and learning the customs of the Native Americans. They contain many photographs, along with illustrations by J.E. Laughlin. The first story takes place in the summer, while the second book recounts the boys' winter adventures. Both are highly recommended reading.



Young's 1906 inscription in his book *Children of the Forest: A Story of Indian Love* (Revell, 1904). He signs his name in Cree symbols, then spells it phonetically. Translated to English, he notes that "The Praying Mantis" is the author's Indian name.