


—THE—

Collector's Miscellany

No. 3 (5TH. SERIES)

FEBRUARY, 1946

<p>JACK, SAM, AND PETE. By S. CLARKE HOOK.</p>		<p>STANLEY DARE'S MASTER- STROKE. A Detective Tale.</p>
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* Only I do. 'Old Hoss' am mighty beautiful! roared Pete, flinging his arms out in admiration

	<p>THE MARVEL</p>	
NO. 114.	NEW SERIES	

A REPRODUCTION OF AN EARLY MARVEL COVER FEATURING ONE OF PETE'S ADVENTURES IN HIS BALLOON "DE OLD HOSS"

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WANTED Fox's and Emmett's journals, Burrage's works, Aldine First-rate, Garfield Boys Journal, New Boys Paper. F. W. Puleston, 11 Kingsway, Alkington, Middleton, Manchester. 4

AN INEXPENSIVE HOBBY. Collect specimen numbers of the old romances and boys' journals. I can supply examples from Sweeney Todd Blueskin, Black Highwayman, Ching-Ching, Jack Harkaway, Crusoe Jack, Charles Peace, Tyburn Dick, Boys of England, Boys Leisure, Boys Comic Journal, Boys World, Boys Standard and many others. 6/6 per dozen. John Medcraft, 64 Woodlands Road, Ilford.

The Collector's Guide established in 1929, is Canada's premier amateur magazine. Four to eight large pages every issue, press printed, well illustrated. Regular contributors include Del. O. Gilbert, (Art, Antiques, Curios). Jan Steel, (Literary Notes), Leslie Booth, (illustrations in lino), James D. Weir, (Match-box Labels), David Shaw, (Stamps), Earle K. Peters, (Cigarette Packets), Melvin Duncan, (Old Boys' Books), Leonard Rivers, (Horse Brasses), etc. etc. No. 106, Vol. 15 now on sale 1/-. Four issues (as published) 5/-. Advert. rates 1d. per word one insertion. Display adverts. 5/- column inch. No free space, and no free copies. English edition from A. C. Cleeve Sculthorpe, Printer, 82 Lichfield Road, Coleshill. C. Warwickshire. This has one of the largest circulations in amateur journalism.

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Story Paper Collector an amateur paper devoted to old boys' books and sent free to anyone interested by the editor W. H. Gander, P.O. Box 60, Transcona, Manitoba, Canada.

The Collector's Miscellany

A journal for collectors of Old and Modern Boys' Books, Bloods, Penny Number Romances and Juvenile Drama

No. 3 (5TH. SERIES)

FEBRUARY, 1946

THE CREATOR OF THE "GEM" AND "MAGNET" STORIES

Some Reflections on a Remarkable Performance

BY HERBERT LECKENBY

—continued from page 29



WHY the editor responsible ever allowed this writers' stories to be passed for publication is a matter for amazement. The real Frank Richards was a genius, his style immaculate, his plots were constructive and convincing, yet every now and again a story appeared so amateurish as to give the the impression that it might have been written by the office boy, and a not very bright office boy at that.

Examples of these "dud" stories are, "Magnet" No. 538, "Billy Bunter's Birthright"; No 581, "Giants at Grips"; "Linley Minor"; and No. 920, "Fishy's Hair-Raising Stunt". Compare the latter with the "Bunter Court" which appeared a little earlier and note the remarkable difference.

What is more although these substitute writers have before them all the authentic data, the geography of the surrounding districts, and so on, they make all sorts of extraordinary mistakes. They gave characters the wrong christian names, and shifted Greyfriars all over the place. Sometimes it appeared almost on the cliffs, at other times well inland. On one classic occasion the boys were going over to France from Folkestone. To get there the author actually took them to London, across the metropolis and then on to the port of embarkation! A remarkable way to get there, surely. In another, a "Gem", Highcliffe suddenly appeared in the neighbourhood of St. Jims.

Then take "Magnet" No. 545, "The Shylock of the Second". Here we have some strange happenings. The first chapter is headed *At Rylcombe Station*. It goes on to describe some scenes there—its a Greyfriars story, mark you, and more remarkable still, the cover shows a scene on the station platform with Ryl-

combe prominently displayed on a board—C. A. Chapman the artist having fallen for the error, too. Now this story was written by J. N. Pentelow, who at least knew all there was to know about the two schools as proved by his inimitable "Galleries". In this case, introducing the St. Jims village into a Greyfriars story must have been carelessness, but one would have thought it would have been spotted before it got into print.

Still another strange story was "Figgy's Folly" "Gem" No. 223. Here the usually level-headed leader of the New House ran away to France with Cousin Ethel, and acted so much like a love-sick swain that one almost began to believe they were reading "Peg's Paper"

These are just a few examples of the non-Hamilton stories, examples which gave that gentleman every occasion to feel wrathful at the free use of the pen names he had made famous, if he ever saw them.

However, despite these inferior stories which appeared from time to time there is no doubt that the "Magnet" and the "Gem" were the two most remarkable papers ever published for boys, for in each having a run of over 30 years, with stories written round the same characters from beginning to end they put up a record which will never be beaten. Gallons of ink can be spilt arguing the question of the authorship, but nothing can alter the fact that the credit for those successes goes to Charles Hamilton who created and made famous the names of Frank Richards and Martin Clifford. So in the evening of his days the least we can do is to give him his due.

FINIS

On page 29, line 23, 851 should read 85%.

THE COLLECTOR'S MISCELLANY

A journal for collectors and all who are interested in Old Boys' Books, Penny Number Romances, Juvenile Drama, Etc. etc. Published every two months.

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Rare Journals of Brief Duration

BY JOHN MEDCRAFT

THE Victorian age of leisurely skill and individual craftsmanship was productive of many fine boys' journals which for artistry and originality we have nothing to compare today. The famous "Boys of England" with an unbroken run of 33 years, "Boys' Standard", "Young Folks' Budget", "Young Men of Great Britain", "Boys' Comic Journal", "Sons of Britannia", and others of long duration are known to all collectors. But for every one of these successful journals there were a dozen whose existence ranged from a year or two down to but a few weeks.

In my opinion, success in this field was more meritorious and failure far more excusable than in our present age of big combines and mechanical production. Brett and Henderson excepted, the old publishers had not the financial resources to enable them to run a non-paying journal until it caught on so every new venture had to stand or fall on its own merits. Why some of these short-lived journals failed is a mystery to me for they appeared to have everything necessary to ensure success. Others, of course, were just errors of judgement by men lacking in business insight or the courage of early convictions when sales decreased.

Now, after upwards of 50 years, the wheel has made a full turn and these Cinderellas of old boys' literature, all very scarce, are eagerly sought and highly prized by all fortunate enough to possess copies. One publisher in particular, Samuel Dacre Clarke, (Guy Rayner) made such a habit of failure that his most successful journal only ran to 3 volumes while, at the other end of the scale "Boys of the Isles" lasted but 12 weeks. Some of these journals are so scarce as to be almost legendary now and I have yet to see copies of Emmett's "Rover's Log", Brett's "Rovers of the Sea", Guy Rayner's "Bad Boys' Paper" (an ill chosen title), and "Boys of Britannia", while all I possess of "Boys of Britain" and "Sons of Albion" is but a few odd numbers.

But there are others, less remote, which figure in my collection and details of these may be of interest to all collectors.

First "The Boys' Miscellany" a fine robust journal, No. 1 published by E. Harrison on May 7, 1863. The forerunner of the many which were to follow, this journal contained many fine full-blooded serials including "Sixteen String Jack", "The

Phantom Horse", "Mazeppa ; or, the Dwarf's Revenge" and "The Green Mask". It ended at No. 74, Vol. 3, with the announcement of a new series to follow but I am unable to say whether or not this ever materialised.

Fox's least successful venture, the "Boys' Half Holiday" commenced on May 7, 1887, with Alfred Burrage, brother of E. Harcourt Burrage, as editor and serials by Bracebridge Hemyng and Ralph Rollington. It lasted but 12 numbers and was then incorporated with No. 153 of its established contemporary, the "Boys' Leisure Hour" which it resembled far too closely for successful competition.

"The Boys Book of Romance" No. 1 April 20, 1868, was Charles Stevens first venture into the realm of publishing after relinquishing the editorship of "Boys of England". Finely illustrated by John Proctor (Puck) and others with serials by the editor, this journal deserved success but did not attain it and only ran to one volume.

The "Boys' Favourite" launched by Brett on Nov. 11, 1870 when "Boys of the World" finished, contained several good serials including "The Prentice Boys of Old London" and "Carlos the Terrible". Although very good value at the original price of a halfpenny, the increase to a penny at No. 18 was, apparently, not justified by results and the paper ended at No. 41, being incorporated with "Boys of England".

Another and far more attractive "Boys' Favourite" was started by Ritchie on May 24, 1879, with a fine leading serial, "St. George for Merrie England" illustrated by Maguire. How long this paper lasted I am unable to say for I have only the first 12 numbers. "The Boy's Guide, Philosopher and Friend" edited by "Tom Floremall", No. 1, Oct. 27, 1888. was a most unusual type of journal for Brett and his only attempt to emulate the "Boys' Own Paper". A title more calculated to scare the youth of the period it would be difficult to imagine ; serials were mediocre and, to round off, plates of Dickens' characters were presented with the early numbers. My copy ends at No. 18 but I do not think the paper lasted much longer.

Yet another of Brett's miss-hits was "Jack Harkaway's Journal for Boys", No. 1, April 24, 1893. An attractive journal with good serials including "Harkaway the Third", it deserved success but only ran to 18 numbers plus 2 supplements to the "Boys of England" with which it was incorporated. Had a journal

AT HOME & ABROAD

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE

FOR THE YOUTH OF ALL NATIONS.

PUBLISHED FOR THE

No. 27. VOL. II.]

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1870.

PUBLISHED BY

PRICE ONE PENNY.

BUSIRIS, THE PROUD; OR, THE TYRANT OF EGYPT.

CHAPTER I.

THE FRIENDS—DISCONTENT—THE WARNING.

The burning beams of an eastern sun streamed fiercely down upon the waters of the Nile, glistened in the wavelets of the Red Sea, shone upon the imperishable granite that forms that wonder of the world, the vast pyramid; and bathed in a flood of golden splendour the temples, monuments, and tombs of the grand city of Memphis; the pride of Egypt, the cradle of science, the birth-place of civilization, and the abstraction of ages, past, present, and to come.

'Tis here where the scene of our story is laid; here where the captive Israelites bowed to the yoke of their cruel task-masters—where the Pharaohs swayed the sceptre, and where Joseph garnered in the corn for the seven years' famine.

'Tis here, in this grand city of Memphis, centuries before the Christian era, that the throne of Egypt was filled by one whose reign was stained by the his-blood of thousands, and whose feet trampled into the dust millions of slaves.

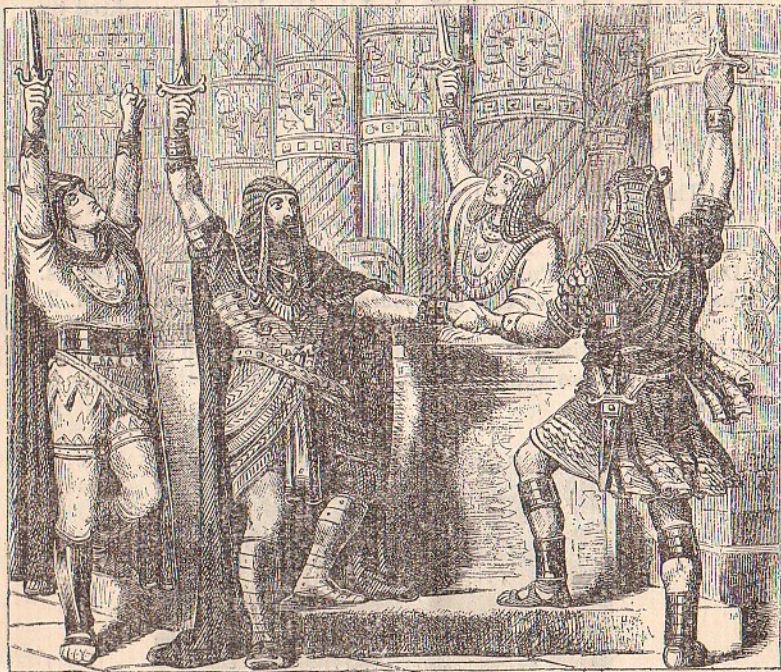
Cruel, proud, and merciless, Busiris, the Tyrant of Egypt, ruled the land with a sceptre of iron, the weight of which had become too heavy for many to bear, and at the time we commence our story, the souls of brave men had commenced to rebel, and traitors stood beside the throne of Egypt's king.

On the banks of the Nile, heedless of the noxious

vapours, which the hot sun sent forth from the mud at their feet, poisoning the air, and spreading pestilence and death around, stood two men, whose sun-baked feet, and tunics formal of linen, interwoven with golden threads, and whose anklets and bracelets of silver, proclaimed them high in rank.

Both were young, for thirty years had not yet passed over the head of either, yet their bronzed features bespoke a thoughtful care, which stamped their brows with a shade that gave years they had not lived to the face.

"Wonders upon wonders does Egypt show to the world," said one, raising his eyes, and casting his gaze to wander gray to where, towering towards the skies, the pyramid reared its mighty head. "What will the Persian say of this favoured land, when he returns with our king's reply to his master? But awhile since and I



THE CONSPIRATORS AT THE TOMB OF ARIAKES.

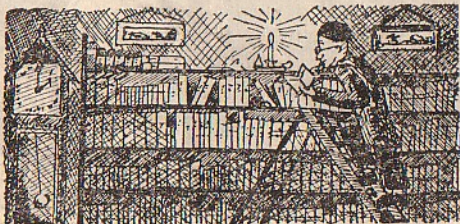
along these lines started years before when the Harkaway stories were fresh and green, it would, undoubtedly, have been a success.

A rare journal of which I cannot recall any previous mention is "At Home and Abroad" published by Henry Lea, No 1, Feb. 25, 1870. My copy ends at No. 44 but it was going strongly at this point and probably ran to more volumes. Among the many fine serials, "Busiris the Proud; or, the Tyrant of Egypt" is outstanding with grand illustrations and the only instance I can recall, of this theme being employed in boys' journals of the period. Stories of ancient Britain, Rome and Greece were numerous but not ancient Egypt. I wonder why? Other serials included "The Boy Whaler" illustrated by Prowse, "Buffalo Bill the King of the Border Men", "Little Buckshot the White Whirlwind of the Prairie", and "The School in the Forest". Altogether, a fine journal marred only by an inartistic title heading. (See illustration on page 39).

"Lads of the Village" No. 1, July 18, 1874, was edited by W. Watkins and printed by W. Cate (Hogarth House) and contained, amongst other good serials, "Castaloga; or, the Silent Hunter" by Percy B. St. John. A very well produced journal, it was hardly robust enough for the youth of the period and ended at No. 40, Vol. 2.

The "Boys' Own Journal" No. 1, May 17, 1883, was George Emmett Jnr's most enterprising attempt to revive the old Emmett journals. It contained several original stories including "Dr. Badgerboy's Pupils" and reprints of earlier Emmett serials. I have only Vol. 1 of this rare journal but think it ran to Vol. 2.

The short lived Dacre Clarke journals are too numerous to be dealt with here and will form the subject of another article of this series.



The Artists of the Old Boys' Papers

BY F. N. WEARING

THE artistic side of the bygone journals has always interested me as much as the literary. Regarding Robert Prowse, there were two of that name—father and son. R. Prowse, Senior, illustrated many of the story papers of the sixties. Percy B. St. John's Indian serial "The Silver Arrow" in "The Parlor Journal" 1864, a series of cartoons in G. A. Sala's paper "Banter" 1863, many illustrations for "Halfpenny Miscellany" 1863, then "Penny Miscellany" down to 1868, and scattered drawings in "Judy" Vols. 1866—1868. He illustrated nearly all "Black Bess", the sequel "Black Highwayman", "Blue-skin", also other penny number romances issued by Edward Harrison. Haven't met much of his work after 1870.

The earliest illustrations by Robert Prowse, Junior, I have come across, start with Ritchie's "The Champion Journal for Boys" 1877. The title heading is his work and also the illustrations to Henry C. Emmett's leading serial "Wonder Ship". When the "Champion Journal" was merged into Rollington's (Allingham) "Boys' World" 1879, he drew the pictures for many of Henry Charlton Emmett's fine stories, along with D. H. Fris-ton another vigorous artist of the period.

When "The Boys' World" died, Prowse worked for Edwin Harcourt Burrage on "Ching-Ching's Own", doing fine illustrations to Burrage's great serials. Then started his long connection with the various Aldine papers, "British Boys' Paper", "New Boys' Paper", "Garfield Boys' Journal", and the huge number of American reprints that the Aldine Co. put on the market such as "Tip-Top", "First Rate", "O'er Land and Sea", "Detective" and "Garfield Libraries" with attractive coloured covers by Prowse. He must have drawn thousands of these, and also illustrations for "Half Holiday" and "Cheerful Libraries". In my opinion Prowse was at his best in the coloured plates to E. H. Burrage's "Lambs of Littlecote", and also "The Island School" with those 346 unique chapter initial letters. Burrage and Prowse made a fine team.

1906 saw another journal also styled "New Boys' Paper" with a Prowse illustrated serial "The Boys of a Lonely School", by Bart Morland (E. H. Burrage). A fine yarn in his characteristic vein.

Another illustrator with plenty of action in his drawings was W. M. Bowles, usually signing W.M.B. A peculiarity about his work was the square-toed boots of his male delineations. His early work will be found in "Sons of Britannia", No. 380, Vol. 15, June 9, 1877, and in Ritchie's "Champion Journal for Boys", No. 19, Vol 1, Jan. 19, 1878.

For over 30 years his illustrations appeared in the Fox papers "Boys' Standard" and "Boys' Leisure Hour", Burrage's "Ching-Ching's Own", various ladies weekly novelettes, and Shurey's "Comrades". Also many for the "Big Budget" and Amalgamated Press papers, but I think his best work was in Shurey's "Famous Crimes" 1902. The pictures portraying the various highwaymen featured in that weekly, of Dick Turpin, Claude Duval, Jack Sheppard, Jonathan Wild, and other sensational characters of the Newgate Calendar type are magnificent. Most of them are signed "Cyclops" but it is unmistakably Bowles' work.

Among other artists may be mentioned H. C. Maguire, Phiz (H. K. Browne), in first series "Boys' Standard" 1875. Warwick Reynolds, Senior, fine front page for years illustrating those live historical serials in "Boys of England", "Young Men of Great Britain" and "Boys' Comic Journal". Albert Morrow, and Val and Willis Reading, drawing for "Ching-Ching's Own" and later, splendid front pages for "Big Budget," "Boys' Leader", "Boys' Friend" and the numerous Harmsworth papers. Not forgetting Edwin S. Hope, author, and also illustrator to Guy Rayner's weeklies, and later "Pearson's Weekly".

Truly a great band of artists who contributed to the entertainment of the youth of Great Britain and the Empire.

THE OLD HOUSE OF WEST STREET

BY ROBERT CHAPMAN

THE following brief account of The Old House of West Street should be of interest to readers of the "Collector's Miscellany", and especially to owners of old penny number romances which have reference to it.

One of the most notorious lurking places for thieves was the infamous West Street, formerly known by the innocent name of Chick Lane. Among the houses in this street was one situated on the North-west side of the Fleet Ditch, a few yards from



Saffron Hill. Sometimes called Jonathan Wild's House and sometimes the Old House of West Street. It was a curious habitation, its dark closets, sliding panels and trap doors making it ideal for robbery and murder. It was here that a sweep named Jones who had escaped from Newgate, was securely hidden for six weeks, and although repeatedly searched by the police his lair was never discovered until divulged by one of the inmates.

Jones was concealed by parting off a portion of the cellar with brickwork, well besmeared with dirt and soot to prevent detection. This hiding place was 4 ft. wide and 9 ft. in depth. Food was conveyed to Jones through an aperture made by removing a brick near the top of the cellar wall.

The house had been the rendezvous of Jack Sheppard, and later of Jerry Abershaw, also of a gang of coiners. It had a private still and in one of the garrets was a secret door leading to the roof of the next house, from which a fugitive could reach Saffron Hill within a few minutes.

The old Fleet Ditch flowed past the back of the house and was the receptacle of many a poor traveller whose naked body was flung through one of the convenient openings existing in the walls of the basement. The existence of this place no doubt inspired T. P. Prest to write his well-known "blood" "The Old House of West Street", and references to it are to be found in the Aldine "Jack Sheppards", and in G. W. M. Reynold's "Mysteries of London".

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

The "Union Jack"—the weekly with the record run.

Lloyd's "Bloods" in the Fifties.

The Man from Baker Street.

Knights of the Road.

Sexton Blake at War.

GUY RAYNER — NICK CARTER WEEKLIES AND "THE BOY'S MAIL"

BY F. N. WEARING

I SUPPOSE most collectors will remember the Guy Rayner publications with their "stop short, and start again under a new title" methods. Perhaps these recollections of Guy Rayner, (S. Dacre Clarke), may interest the old timers.

Way back in 1903, when Britain was flooded with American remainders of the coloured cover libraries—"Nick Carter", "Work and Win", "Diamond Dick", "Brave and Bold", "Buffalo Bill", "Tip-Top", "Do and Dare" and others, I bought four gross at 6/6 a gross—13 to the dozen, assorted, from the Nick Carter Publishing House, and found during correspondence that the manager was our old friend Guy Rayner. He said he had acquired practically all the remainders of Street & Smith, and Frank Tousey, the big New York publishers. They certainly sold well, and while they lasted did a big trade—in fact the Harmsworth concern got quite excited about it and, so Rayner said, tried to persuade the big wholesalers to boycott them.

A circular which he issued said "6/6 assorted grosses, 6½d. assorted dozens. These are the prices at the office for one and all alike; for the finest selling libraries ever produced. I know that I shall be attacked by by the envious, but my boys' books have now a high circulation, and instead of purchasing a country, and town house, and half a dozen motor cars, I propose sharing my success with the Trade. You all know that I have reduced the arbitrary terms so long enjoyed by certain publishers, and now I advance another step and claim your attention. The following are my famous quick selling books:—'Nick Carter', 'Old Broadbrim', 'Buffalo Bill Stories' and 'Brave and Bold'. On and after October 1st 1903 my office prices are reduced to 6/6 per gross of 156—6½d. per dozen of 13. Don't take *No* from any wholesale house, because there are a number of these which I refuse to supply. I run this business and no wholesale newsagent is going to regulate it".

Well, as I say, I had four gross assorted, sold many, but picked out about 200 titles which I fancied and kept them for many years. Eventually they travelled home again to various collectors in the United States with whom I have had many transactions. Needless to say when the stock ran out it couldn't

be replaced so the Nick Carter Publishing House and Guy Rayner closed down. Another of Rayner's short lived concerns.

Then a few years later, 1907, appeared "The Boys' Mail", a neat little paper, which as usual, like most of Rayner's ventures, had a very short run. I had a very interesting letter from Rayner at the time, from which I quote.

"I am pleased to hear that you are interested in the old writers. I contributed to 'The Young Englishman', 'Sons of Britannia', 'Boys of England', 'Young Folks', etc. when I was a boy of 16. I ran the 'Rayner Series' at the age of 24 to 28. Since then I have been in America, Australia and South Africa. I have kept right in touch with the old writers to the last, and am sorry to say the following are dead: George Emmett, Bracebridge Hemyng, E. H. Burrage (suddenly and recently), old Bob Prowse, J. J. G. Bradley, H. C. Emmett (15 years since), and many others. Vane St. John is a poor old man, Charles E. Pearce the same. Charles Stevens is gone too. I was the protege of these veterans, and though I am not 50, I feel old when I think about the days that are gone. I am just amusing myself with 'The Boy's Mail' as Harmsworth will not believe that a paper on the old lines will go. I have sold them a lot of material but I do not admire the style of their papers".

Later Rayner had another attempt in the publishing game as Charles Strong & Co. and issued "The Boys' Peep-Show" in 1909, first as a ½d, and later a 1d. weekly. He also issued "Fred Leslie's Journal" and "The Boys' Star". None of them lasted long, and in the final number issued of "Fred Leslie's Journal", No. 20, he says:—"With this number 'Fred Leslie's Journal' is finished, for the simple reason that I have, far more important work to do. I am called upon to make a long journey, and in a little while shall be thousands of miles from home. I might get someone to conduct the paper for me, but I shrink from doing this, and reluctantly write the end"!

About the same time appeared "The Amazing Library" bearing the Chas. Strong & Co. imprint. I remember that No. 1 contained a story of the life of Charles Pearce.

I have a collection of seventy specimen numbers of the various old boys' papers issued from the sixties onwards. Just had a look over the Rayners:—"Boys' Jubilee Journal" 1888; "Boys' Popular Weekly" 1888; "Boys' Novelette" 1889; "Young Briton's Novelette" 1888; "Boyhood" 1890; "Boys' Graphic" 1890

also re-issued 1902), and Boys' Mail, 1907. All are interesting and well got up, yet none of them had a long run.

Rayner wrote a number of first class serials for his papers. The titles of some of these were : "The Prince of Rogues", "Guy Rayner", "Mysterious Mask", "Mat Marchmont", "Cœur de Lion", "A Born Fool", "On the Warpath" and "The Prince of the Prairie".

Other contributors to the Rayner papers were Edwin S. Hope (who also illustrated some of his yarns), Charles T. Podmore, John Nix Pentelow (otherwise Jack North of the Amalgamated Press paper "The Marvel"), R. D. Chetwode and W. T. Bridges.

I notice in "Boys' Popular Weekly" 1888, that a book prize was awarded to R. A. H. Goodyear. Since those days the clever author of over 40 fine school and adventure tales issued by the leading modern publishers.

I am unable to give any information about Guy Rayner after the cessation of "Fred Leslie's Journal". I suppose, as they say in the States, he "couldn't make the grade"! and faded out of publishing game.

Recollections of "The Union Jack"

By A. Harris, from notes by the late Arthur Du Soir

THE "Union Jack" was a penny illustrated weekly which commenced in 1880. It was first edited by one whose name was familiar to all lads who love sea stories—the late W. H. G. Kingston—a brilliant, powerful writer, and a true and liberal friend to the poor sailor lads and fisher folk.

On Kingston's health failing, G. A. Henty, who for many years had been a brave and dashing war correspondent, undertook the duties of editorship and in addition issued three or four volumes of boy's stories every year nearly all of which contained much historical and geographical information.

Henty was a big, genial, kind-hearted man and there were many who could testify to his thoughtfulness and desire to help those whom he delighted to call "my boys".

In its time "The Union Jack" was a formidable rival to the "Boy's Own Paper", containing as it did stories and articles by

such writers as Jules Verne, Ascot R. Hope, Robt. Ballantyre, Bernard Heldman and D. Christie Murray.

Towards the end of 1880 a club to promote the study of natural History was formed by the editor. Called the Union Jack Field Club, it rapidly grew to a membership of 5,000 with several hundred local branches.

Sale Exchange Wanted

Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Round-up. A monthly magazine devoted to the collection, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers. Published by Ralph P. Cummings, Box 75, Fisherville, Massachusetts, U.S.A. Price \$1.00 a year; 10 cents a copy.

Nineteenth Century Peep-show a monthly paper no sentimental collector can afford to miss. \$1.00 a year, 10 cents a copy (nickel novels not overlooked). Particulars from F. T. Singleton, 2000 B S.W. Red Rd., Coral Gables 34, Florida, U.S.A.

Will exchange advertising space with all collectors' publications.

SALE: London Journal, Bow Bells, Young Folks Paper, Bretts and Hogarth novels, etc. P. Mulhall, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny. 3

TEN PENNY STAMPS (20 cents) brings specimen copy International Amateur Magazine for collectors, budding authors, hobbyists. Mrs. Teugels, 81 Bradford Road, Brighouse, England. 0

WANTED No. 1 etc. of Hotspur. High prices paid. Laverne Bawden, 7 Penryn Street, Redruth, Cornwall. 3

I WANT boys' periodicals and comics, 1918-1940. Anything on Nelson Eddy. Newspapers dated December 1931, February 1932. c/o BM/FRVV, London. W.C. 1. 3

WANTED early Gems and Magnets. Boys' Friend Libraries containing very early stories of Tom Merry. Sexton Blake Libraries containing The King's Spy, The Fake Wireless Message, The Great Diamond Fraud and any Kestrel tales. Also Dreadnoughts, Boys' Friends, Penny Poptars, early Union Jacks, etc. Also comic papers before 1925. Eric Fayne, 23 Grove Road, Surbiton. 5

WANTED some numbers of Champion, Champion Library, Triumph, Hotspur and Red Arrow. Also Thriller Fourpenny Library. John Gocher, Junior, Constitution Hill, Sudbury, Suffolk. 3

Sale Exchange Wanted

FOR SALE: Sweeney Todd; Merry Wives of London; Charles Pearce the Burglar; Nell Gwynne; Little John and Will Scarlet; Boys of Canem Academy; Black Bess; Black Highwayman; Blueskin; She Tiger of Paris; Mystery of Marlborough House; Under the Blood Red Flag; Captain Tom Drake; Rupert Dreadnought, orig. edn.; Sailor Crusoe; Paul Jones the Pirate; Jack Sheppard; Handsome Harry and Cheerful Ching-Ching; Daring, Wonderful and Young Ching-Ching; Lambs of Littlecote; Island School; Broad Arrow Jack; Blue Dwarf, all coloured plates; Outlaws of Epping Forest; Tom Wildrake's Schooldays; Jack Harkaway's Schooldays—At Oxford—Amongst the Brigands—Round the World etc. Scores of Brett and Hogarth House complete romances. Gentleman Jack; Lady Godiva; Miller and His Men; Black Monk; Mazeppa; Old House of West Street; Spectre of the Hall; Paul Clifford; Penny Pickwick; Oliver Twiss; The Sketch Book; Smuggler King and many other Lloyd romances. Boys World Vols 1—4; Up-to-Date Boys complete set; Boys Weekly Reader Vols 1—4; Boys of the British Empire Vols 1—3; Lads of the Village; Boys of the World Vols 1 & 2; Young Folks Vols 17—20, 29—32, 41 & 43; Boys of the Empire; many vols of Boys of England; Boys Comic Journal and Young Men of Great Britain, state wants. Aldine Buffalo Bill, Diamond, Detective, Tip-Top, Cheerful, Bullseye, Powerful Dramatic Tales and Half Holiday Libs. Lion Jack; Boys Friend; Boys Friend 3d Library; Boys Realm; Boys Herald. Many others. Reasonable exchanges considered. John Medcraft, 64 Woodlands Road, Ilford, Essex.

WANTED Halfpenny Marvel 1—100, Halfpenny Boys Friend, Ching-Chings, Comrades, Sweeney Todd, Springheeled Jack, Midshipman Tom. Similar publications. Webb, Mornington, Brunswick Park Road, New Southgate. n/c

PRINTING

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