



JACK.

I think of all the joys the Fourth is the best that ever gave life! It's the only day that ever gave me a chance to be a hero!

MOTHER.

The Third of July, the Fourth is the best! It's the only day that ever gave me a chance to be a hero!

Two guerrillas stood in silence, and little Hetty wrung her hands. "Quick!" she said, suddenly. "Under my line! Quick, cousin! Quick!"



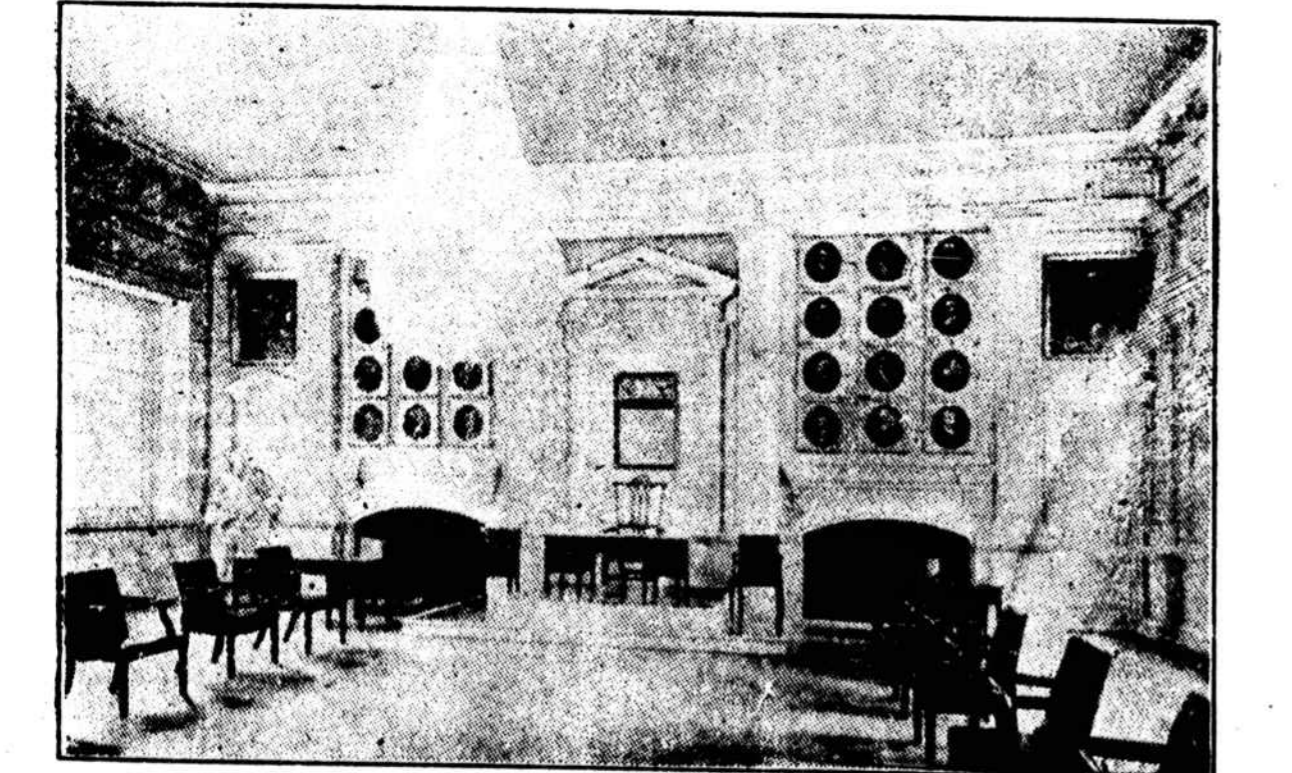
HETTY MARVIN

A Tale of the Fourth

PRICE had been set upon the head of Governor Griswold, of Connecticut, by the British, but when, in 1777, they attacked New London, he escaped and made his way to the town of L., where his cousin, Mrs. Marvin, lived.

"Why did you not say so, then, when I asked you?" thundered the officer. "I could not tell, sir," was the fearful response, "and I told him so."

Independence Day



Room in Which the Declaration of Independence Was Adopted.

That moment a mounted party were riding rapidly toward the house to capture him. Governor Griswold had previously arranged a code of signals with his friends at the creek, by which a white cloth displayed in his attic window by day or a light by night meant that he was discovered, and was coming to the boat.

THE MARVELOUS MINIATURE TREES OF JAPAN.

BY ONOTO WATANNA. THESE CURIOUS EFFECTS ARE ONLY ATTAINED AFTER GENERATIONS OF PATIENT TOIL.

AMONG the many delightful arts and studies of the Japanese none is more strange, unique and ancient than that of their training, cultivating and dwarfing of certain varieties of their flower bearing trees.

While essentially artistic, Japanese gardeners do not seek for rare flowers or trees, however beautiful they may be, but rather cultivate the cherry, the plum, azalea, japonica and other common flowering trees, and train these into the rarest of shapes, making festivals of their blossoming time, and placing fairy plum and cherry trees in pots in the guest-chamber as a token of hospitality.

It would seem that the same perversion of things obtains in their culture of dwarf trees as in everything else Japanese. Where Westerners would train their trees to grow tall and straight and symmetrical, the Japanese fix upon a motif, and laboriously, patiently and systematically adapt nature to their own design, until the tree is twisted and distorted from its original plan, and slowly follows their conception to perfection.

The plum tree is, in fact, a favorite subject for their skill, and is trained in a variety of shapes, bent and curved and with graftings of different colored blossoms sprays, fresh, fragrant and long lasting, form one of the most welcome and beautiful decorations during the early spring.

The plum tree, originally the Imperial favorite, was long since, however, supplanted by the cherry. A pretty story is told of the origin of the name "O-shu-ku-bal," meaning "Nightingale-dwelling-plum-tree," a variety with pink blossoms and a delicious odor.

In some way the lines fell into the hands of the good Emperor, and he straightway ordered the tree returned, hence the name "Nightingale-dwelling-plum-tree."

And in fact all the names of these curious trees have a poetic significance. One cannot visit Japan without hearing of the Recumbent Dragon plum tree, at Kameto, north of Tokio. This rare and curious tree of extreme old age and contorted shape whose branches are bent plowing the soil, forming new roots in fourteen places, straggling over an extreme area, from its suggestive likeness was named the "Recumbent Dragon," and yearly clad with fresh shoots and white blossoms of the perfume it attracted large crowds of visitors and pilgrims.

The pine is indispensable to the true Japanese, and is found wherever he resides. It surrounds the chapel of the sun god and that of the saints and patrons. The dwarf variety called Pine Gyo Matsui, meaning "dwarf pine with five leaves," is much sought after, as it is a symbol of happiness and prolonged life.

The peach tree has a mystic value derived from ancient Chinese legends. The peach tree of the Taoists, said to grow within the gardens of the fairy Su-Wang-Mu, blossoms but once in 3000 years, but each peach is believed to confer 3000 years of life upon the fortunate or unfortunate mortal who consumes it.

Under many conditions hot water is one of the most potent remedial agents that can be employed, and often, when intelligently used, it accomplishes more than drugs.

Hot water is necessary properly to cleanse the face and neck, and to stimulate the pores to cast off the fatty material which might otherwise stagnate and cause pimples or blackheads.

To sponge the face and throat with hot water immediately before going out into the cold air is almost to invite taking a cold, but by systematically following the hot water with cold water and brisk friction (not too vigorous on the face), the tissues become firm and the skin grows healthy, and able to throw off all impurities.

It is love for men that lifts a man above men. Delays are never dangerous when we are angry. Outward plenty is a mockery without inward piety.

The more a man knows himself the less he says about it. The power that comes down is the one that will lift up. Children bring the cheer as well as the tears of a home.

The rich are not always godly; but the godly are always rich. Every man has his price; but God only knows what it is.—Hans Horn.

There is an unwritten code of etiquette among actors in regard to certain calls that appears to differ widely in different countries. In certain theatres and opera houses in German cities it is exactly the reverse of what it is here.

A curious custom is in vogue in many parts of India. If a dispute arises between two landowners two holes are dug close together, in each of which defendant and plaintiff's lawyers have to place a leg. They have to remain thus until either one of them is exhausted or complains of being bitten by insects, when he is judged to be defeated and his employer loses his case.

False teeth made of paper are in use in Germany, and are reputed to be highly satisfactory. These paper teeth have several advantages over the ordinary ones of porcelain or mineral composition. They are very cheap, do not break or chip, are not sensitive to heat or cold, nor has the moisture of the mouth any injurious effect upon them.

Some of the Best Jokes of the Day.

Profitably to One Only. "To make a bargain taketh two." The sage says, and yet seems very strange since it is true that only one will get it.

Professing Our Obligations. The Professor—"We owe a great deal to chemistry." Friend—"Yes, indeed. To chemistry for instance, we owe a great many of our blunders."—Judge.

What is that automobile complaining about? "He says that the laws are wrong. He wants all pedestrians to wear numbers and secure permits before being allowed to cross the streets."—Washington Star.

Known Among the Catholics. "Catholic Chief: 'There are too many of you around that boiling pot.'" Catholic Chief: "We are preparing a treat for your excellency." "That's all right, but too many cooks spoil the missionary, you know."—Yonkers Statesman.

A Fine Distinction. "I didn't think you would write an anonymous letter." "I didn't," was the indignant reply. "But you didn't sign your name to it." "No. But I signed the name of one of the neighbors."—Washington Star.

Burgess. "No, I never saw Filbert's wife, but I supposed she is a decided brunette, with a slender figure." Morris: "Anybody tell you anything about her?" Burgess: "Oh, no, but Filbert is forever raging over blouses of a full habit."—Boston Transcript.

Taking No Risk. "John, dear, the Harkers have invited us out to dinner Sunday." "I am afraid of their vegetables, Maria." "But they raise their own vegetables." "That is the very reason I am afraid of them."—Chicago News.

A Leap Year Proposal. Harry—"Here is the newest conundrum: When is two an odd and lucky number?" Celia—"You know I never can guess conundrums." Harry—"When two are made one." Celia—"Oh, Harry, this is so sudden!"—Town Topics.

Get Busy. "What would you say if I kissed you?" "There's a better way to find out than asking me."—N. Y. Journal.

How's My Only Child. "How's my boy getting on?" asked the farmer of the city merchant. "Oh, he's all right. Does just what he's told, but seems to lack judgment of his own." "Well," replied the farmer, "he knows a whole lot if he could only think of it."—Cleveland Leader.

What I Would Like. "What I would like," said the young author, whose first story had just been accepted, "is that the binding of the book be in keeping with the story. Do you grasp my meaning?" "Oh, yes," replied the intelligent and accommodating publisher. "I'll have it done in half calf."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Main Question. "Somebody wants to see you, sir," said the office boy. "Did you get his name, Jimmy?" "No, sir." "You've been guilty of a serious oversight, Jimmy." "He said he wanted to see you." "But that's comparatively unimportant, Jimmy. The main question is, do I want to see him?"—Chicago Post.

The Thankful Patron. "Citizen in the street car office: 'I am a patron of the Prospect line. This morning I stood at the corner of Huntington street and—'" "Manager (interrupting): 'And they don't stop for you?'" "Citizen: 'No, they did not. But here is a little note of thanks I wish you would have delivered to the motor-man of car 999.'"

Manager: "Why do you want to thank him when he didn't stop for you?" "Citizen: 'For not laughing at me when he went by.'"—Cleveland Leader.

Prolonged Heroism. "Henry, why don't you do something heroic and win one of those Carnegie prizes?" "There are various kinds of heroes, my dear." "And what do you claim to be?" "I think I'm a moral hero, my dear." "A moral hero? Well, you've lived with me thirty years now and I've never known you to do anything heroic yet." "That's just what I've done, my love." "What have you done?" "Lived with you thirty years."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Letter Carrier's Fees. It is part of a Spanish postman's duty to collect a tax of a cent upon every letter sent from within the kingdom which he delivers at the house. To save expense, large business houses send to the post-office for their mail. Letters from abroad are delivered free.