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BUNNONNONNONNONNONNONNONNONNON GEORGE DEWEY, THE MOST VENTURESOME YOUNGSTER IN LEFE Sale Color Color Colored

The Future Hero of Manila "Belonged to that Large Class of Young Barbarians Who Keep Fond Mothers in a State of Suspense from the Moment They Are Awake Until Tucked Into Bed at Night"-A Boy Who Didn't Know What Fear Meant-Fonder of Fun Than Study, He Often Occupied the "Dunce Bench-His

Ambition to be a Soldier and How He Was Forced Into the Navy-Not a Sunday School Book Boy by Any Means.

[By Frederick Upham Adams, in N. Y. Herald.]

Connected Connec

which is termed opportunity—a longer and less accurate word than "luck." Thousands of men, who once were boys, were born with the qualities which are He was a public spirited citizen and a politician of no small local influence. Back of the story and a half cottage were born with the qualities which are inseparable from greatness, but few of them find their lives cast in the en-vironment and favored with the cir-cumstances, conditions and events which give sudden and effective play to faculties which may for years have smouldered or slumbered. was a small garden which the boys atwas a small garden which the boys at-tended, and there was also a barn with room for the doctor's horse and buggy and the family cow. When George was eight years old, this cow became his special care. Her name was Frisky, and she lived

To unduly exalt such success by lgup to it. According to the admiral, noring the train of unexpected but in-evitable events which made it possible is simply crowning luck while pretend-ing to ignore it. Let us consider our great men, be they dead or living, as Frisky was the most predatory cow that ever jumped a fence or became mired in a swamp. At that time no village ordinances proscribed the wanderings of horses and cows, and the they were, and paint their portraits with their true colors, giving credit where credit is due, giving opportunity or luck its credit when due, and not Dewey cow with others was released in the early morning and permitted to roam the landscape at her own sweet will until located and conducted home withholding censure when the facts call n the evening by George. Driving home Our schoolbook saints are a Frisky was his most important daily "stint" as a boy, and many an advendreary and impossible lot. With which preface we will proceed to a study of the boyhood and career of Admiral ture and some perils did he encounter in the performance of that duty.

PERCHED ON THE "DUNCE BLOCK.

tled in Berlin, Vt. Here Julius Yemans At the age of six George Dewey was Dewey was born, one of a family of as healthy and enterprising a boy as one could find in the hills of Vermont. eight children. He was a farm boy and a cattle drover. After loading and pitching seventcen loads of hav one hot The boiling heat of the summer and the numbing cold of the winter were alike summer day, when in his nineteenth year, he decided to abandon the life of powerless to check the flow of his spirits. He was as full of life as an a farmer and begin the study of medi-cine. He was graduated from Ver-mont university, at Montpeller, at 1823, egg is full of meat. He was led to school by an elder brother and con-signed to the task of mastering a primand began the practice of medicine in that town. In 1825 he married Mary Perrin, of Berlin, Vt. The fruit of this No healthy boy likes to go to school, but it was positive misery to young union was eighteen years of happy do-Dewey. In the spring and summer the gleam of the waters of the Onion river, with thoughts of swimming or of fish lurking in the cool depths, lured all in-

may be said with truth that there was no intention of being bad on the part of the future hero, but it is equally sure that there was no especial attempt to be good.

WANTED TO BE A SOLDIER.

Such a boy is bound to be a leader among boys, and George Dewey was the undisputed chief of the clan in Montpelier. No boy can hold such a position-or at least could not in those days-except by physical prowess, and George attained and maintained his authority by a series of conflicts in which bloody noses were given and received. Some of his historians assert that in these fights he never assailed a boy smaller than himself, but inasmuch as these historians were not present at all of these encounters I prefer to believe that he was much the same as other aggressive boys, and that he "waded through slaughter to a throne," irrespective of the size of those who dared challenge his supremacy. is a way boys have. That fine senti-ment which respects a failen foe and

bids one take no advantage of weak-ness is one of the attributes of civili-zation, and boys are not civilized. The early ambition of the boy Dewey was to be a soldier. He had no inclination toward the sea, and did not come from a seafaring family. Even to this day Admiral Dewey is subject to seasickness, and expects to pass through a siege of this malady in the early part of a long cruise. It was by pure ac-cident, as will be related later, that he became a sailor rather than a soldier. As a boy he was completely carried away by tales of valor on bloody fields and by stories of great campaigns won by famous commanders. Once his father read to him the story of Hannibal crossing the Alps. The recital made a great impression on the boy. It was in the dead of winter and on the following day he fold the story in fear as a boy. From babyhood he was not "afraid of the dark." The things which outwardly scare infants he regarded with interest and amusthis little sister Mary, and asked her to be his army, proposing to cross the only "Alps" in the neighborhood, a large hill which flanked Montpelier ment. When about ten years old a wo man called at Dr. Dewey's house and asked to have a tooth pulled. She had to the north. She readily consented and outor agreed to accommodate her. She cutig George and his army set out on their undertaking. It was keen and cold, the snow lying deep on the ground tenk a seat in an ordinary chair, but found there was no proper support for and piled into huge drifts in ravines and along fences. With wooden sward her head. The dector told Charles Draey, then a boy of fourteen, to hold n hand, George conducted his army to her head while ne extracted the trooth the ciest of the "Alps," from which he A' the first scream Charles let go and looked down on that part of "Italy" George looked at him in disgust, ran. compassed by Washington county. The and promptly stepping forward acted as assistant until the operation was completed. He afterward assured Charles and the doctor that "a woman's "ariay" froze the tip of its nose and one ear, while Hannibal had two of his toes mostbitten. A farmer took the ex-redition into his bob sled and carried scream couldn't hurt you. it back to Montpelier. On one occasion George found a big

fertile in expedients for mischlef as | to find some monster with which to an Apache Indian is for torture. It | give taitle. Failing to find any such dragon, he did the next best thing, and unagined one to exist. This huge beast was supposed to dwell in the waters of the Onion river, near the Dewey house Mary was the forlorn princess and she would wade out up to her knees and then shrick in simulated terror that the dragon was after her. Then would appear the valiant knight St. George Delvey, mounted on his white charger (a lath), and armed with his trusty spear (a pointed stick). Thus accoutred he would dash into the stream up to his waist, beating the water with the stick and stabbing the dragon in innumerable places. Then he would es-cort the splattered "princess" to the shore, only to repeat the performance until both were thoroughly drenched

and tired. General Israel Putnam was another one of his heroes, and as a result of his love for realism Dr. Dewey came near losing his old and well trained horse. George read the story of how the old Revolutionary hero escaped from the British soldiery at Horseneck by id-ing his charger down the rocks at breakneck speed. One day when the doctor was busy at home George tool; the horse from the stable and, accompanied by a number of boys, rode to the top of a steep gravel bank. Mounting the horse, he urged him into a gallop the horse, he urged him into a gallop headed for the bank. When he came to the edge the horse swerved and George went over his head and over the bank. The animal lost his footing and while and slid means to the ball and rolled and slid nearly to the bottom. His sides were badly scraped, and tom. This lance were a month. So was deorge, but not from his fall. As a result of this exploit he took his meals standing for several days.

recharge the cannon!

He did so, but the charred wood ig-nited the powder, and the flash exploded in his face. His halr was singed and his eyes were closed. Groping his way to the rain barrel, he plunged his head into it. The pain was intense, but George was more worried about his appearance. He asked anxiously how he looked. The boys were compelled to admit that his swollen lips and powder-blackened neck and face were not attractive.

"Never mind," said George. "After It stops smarting it will look better." During the Mexican war General Taybecame the hero par excelle the boy Devey. Eagerly he read the ac-counts in the village newspapers of the successive victories won by the Ameri-cans, and "Old Zach, who licked the enemy every time," became Dewey's patron Saint. In the sham battles which the boys conducted at the time Georg Taylor, and generally had to win a fight before he could induce a playmate

to take, the part of Santa Ana. Among the playmates of George Dewey was the son of a miller, who owned a mill on the banks of Dog River. In the summer season there was none too much water. George was fond of the company of the miller's son, and considered it a shame that he had to work in the mill when he should be playing. He thought the matter over and finally hit on the solution of the and finally hit on the solution and of at once adopted. Whenever the two boys planned an expedition for a certain day they would go to the mill on the evening of the preceding night and set the wheel wheel in metter. and set the whole wheel in motion. It was great sport to see the wheel re

volve, and to realize that they were responsible for the revolving machinery. Then again it would drain the mill pond, and that meant a vacation for "Jack" on the following day. They worked this trick cusseccfully several times, but were finally discovered by the miller, who flogged both of them soundly and impartially.

BROKE A SUBMARINE RECORD.

George was the most venturesome boy in Montpelier. He was sure to be the first one to test the strength of the newly formed ice, and many a time he broke through and narrowly escaped drowning. He was bound to excel, if possible, in all feats of skill, strength and daring. The story of his swim-ming under water is a familiar but typical one of his boyish career. It seems that some strong lunged boy had dived from the bank into the water and swam to a certain post out in the

| man'is life is enough at a time. I will A headlong dive from the rafters through a paper hoop into a pile of hay was the sensational act, and "alone was more than worth the price of ad-

Admiral Dewey says that his early nautical training consisted entirely in listening to his father sing a song en-titled "The Poor Little Child of a Tar." This was a sympathetic and pathetic ballad, which related the woes of a poor child whose father had gone to sea to fight for his country, and who had not returned. The "poor little child of tar" was a beggar, and supposed him-self an orphant. At last, when all sorts of woes had piled themselves on the subject of the balad, the father returns rich and formus and the balad. rich and famous, and the last verse runs triumphantly as follows:

"What, my Willie," he cried, "my poor little boy, At last I've returney from the war. Thy sorrow shall cease, nor shall grief

more annov

The poor little child of a tar."

This song the doctor was compelled sing again and again, always with tearful but appreciative listener in George Dewey.

FORCED INTO THE NAVY.

Fortune smilled on Dr. Dewey,' and then George was fourteen years old it vas decided to send him to the Nor-vich University at Northfield, Vt., and fit him for a career as a soldier. He remained at Norwich for three years, and the records show that he was a very poor scholar. He barely succeeded passing the examinations, and was frequently disciplined for various of-fences. One of the penalties was to stand guard, and the people of Northfield became very familiar with the face and figure of Cadet George Dewey from seeing him pacing up and down in front of the university buildings. In the meantime Dr. Dewey had become cuite figure politically and attempted to seure an appointment for George at West Point. All of his ambition was to be a soldier, and he had no thought of entering the navy. But it was found mpossible to secure the appointment desired, and rather than wait the fa-United States naval academy at Anna-polis, a nomination being secured in 1854. George Dewey was then seven-teen years old.

For the first two years the boy's conduct was such as to discourage his fa-ther. He was deficient in his studies, and lax in discipline. His record was such that his father lectured him sev erely, and finally threatened to take him from the academy hanged his course. This talk made a the boy, who

ot viciously bad, but careless, self-in-

stry of the boyhood of the hero anything human in the picture presentvella makes interesting reading, ed to him in the types. He is led to believe that success is attained only by would point few morals in the steady, unremitting and conscientious devotion to some ideal fixed on in early school book. Not that youth. George Washington is pictured as a boy who as a lisping infant beboy. He was simply the boy with an excess of that nagan that campaign which inevitably made him the Father of His Country, Adams, Clay, Webster, Calhoun and gragery which goes by the more Adams, Clay, Webster, Calhoun and others never were politicians, according to such historians, but were statesmen tional but less accurate name of from their school days. Our great inventors, according to

for it.

Dewey

such popular chronicles, wrought out their devices by patient, unceasing la-b(x, and reaped the sure reward of all who will do likewise. All of which is false, misleading and discouraging to the normal American boy, who is retro-

spective enough to realize that he does

not possess and cannot apply such traits. Our teachers and historians gloss over or ignore that all potent fac-

tor in the career of every human being

Simeon Dewey, grandfather to George

Dewey, moved from Hanover, N. H., about one hundred years ago, and set-

the was of that familiar type of boy that calls into vigorous switch in the hands of stern r irate teacher. He belonged tlarge class of young barbarians fond mothers in a state of from the moment they are is the morning until securely into bed for the night. Thouof years of civilization have hout effect in checking or subthat savagery which is instinct young male of the human spe-He is as much of a barbarian and as in the tiger infested Africa. He rebels at restraint, in destruction and accepts the of civilization only after they peen whipped into him. A civilpan is a tarmed boy.

a bad

al spirits.

OLD AMERICAN STOCK.

original American Dewey was Thomas, and landed in Boston Five years later he married a Frances Clarke. The Dewey line through two Josiahs, two ms, two Simeons down to Julius sais Dewey, father of the admiral. succesive grandparents mated women bearing such standard an names as Lyman, Miller, Bai Phelps, Camer and Yemans. Dr. ins Y. Dewey was wedded to Mary min, who bore him all his children. withus be seen that Admiral Dewey seended from acceptable American ak A calm survey of their record the bow that the Deweys were aver-New Englanders, with the average tues and the average failings of that din of humanity. The natural tends of the American people to hero ship frequently extends to the point forifying the previously unknown nestry of a newly arrived hero and. of our Dewey historians have the ancestors of Admiral

and attempted to embellish placid careers with tales of warrowess. They have found the kiediah Dewey, "the fighting para d'Vermont," who, according to arrative, was preaching a serab Bennington on the Sunday morn in famous day in Revolutionary

a quit the pulpit long enough to a wheat the British soldiery and a sturned and calmily finished the factors. All of which may be true, the fact remains that the chool the of three years ago were not tallar with the name of any Dewey actioned in text books. The truth of matter is that for two or three hun-M years the Deweys were average arican ditizens, on a par, so fas as the were concerned, with the Johnsons, Millers and thouthe of other American families, until W May morning George Dewey sank Spanish fleet and immortalized the ing of Dewey and Manila. Prein American minds with has and ropes, and George Dewey own in a limited naval club cirin Washington.

MISLEADING BIOGRAPHY.

hing is so discouraging to a boy the reading of the typical history of a arear of a successful man or a from uduraj hero. He cannot recognize teeth

mestic life and four children-Charles, Edward, George and Mary, who after-ward became Mrs. George P. Greeley, of Nashua, N. H Mrs. Dewey died when George was about six years old, and he has but a faint recollection of her. In 1845, when George was eight years old, his father married his second wife. Susan Edson Tarbox, and she brought up the three boys and the girl with as much care as if they were her own.

and protector.

ed few opportunities.

clination to study from his head, and many was the time that he stood for hours on the "dunce block. In the winter the hills gleamed with

snow and the hollows were a glare of ice, and the hours went by in a dreary procession of lagging minutes until the signal came that the day's misery was over. As a boy of from six to ten, Mary Dewey was two years younger George Dewey submitted to school rules and discipline with that obedithan George, and they were constant companions, with the boy as her chamence that comes from fear. Then he began to openly rebel, and from that Mr. Dewey was the leading physi-cian of Montpeller, then a village of 1,500 people. The Dewey homestead and the birthplace of the future admiral time until unmercifully flogged by a new schoolmaster was a terror to the successive teachers who had him in was located on what is now No. 120 State street, directly obtosite the State Capitol building. With the spacious Capitol grounds in front and the Onion river-now called the Winoski-not far

charge There was no schoolboy trick which could be suggested or invented which he did not attempt and, as a rule, ex-ecute. He put oil in the inkstands, tacks away, the children had ample oppor-tunity to get into all kinds of mischief on the teacher's chair, snuff and pepper on the red hot stove, boarded up the school house chimney, "soaked" the teacher from ambuscade with a careand all sorts of dangers, and they missfully prepared snowball, sprinkled tac

York. He said a few days ago:

island it is known as 'Bluebeard's cas-

in front of the little cabins of the

a mountain rises abruptly from the water to a height of 1,500 feet, and half

way up the side on a shelf perhaps two acres in area stand the crumbling walls

of the old fortress. "Two hundred years ago these waters

teemed with pirates, who pillaged and killed at every turn. But among them

all throughout the golf. Central Amer-ica and the West Indies there were

two men whose names stood out above

the rest and whose deeds are recailed

who

These two men were Latitte.

is fortress upon the Island of Thomas. The last named chose his alte, well, and for forty years defied the sall-ors of Spain and France in the new

had his stronghold in the delta of the Mississippi, and 'Bluebeard,' who built

world. "I visited the ruins the day after our

arrival, in correctory with one of the ward room officers and an old darky

whom we hired to guide us. A nar-

GEORGE'S FIRST RESPONSIBILITY. school steps with water until they were a glare of ice and shouted with glee as When George Dewey was a boy his the outrushing pupils tumbled father was an excellent type of the each other-these and a hundred other pranks followed each other in bewildprogressive country physician, with a fairly good practice. This was long ering succession. If any piece of devilbefore the days of specialists, and Dr. Dewey was called on for everything, try were perpetrated, "Dod" Dewey, as he was nicknamed, was suspected, and setting a broken leg to pulling or attending a case of smallpox, I generally with good reason. He was as

island.

to this day.

RELIEVED IN THE DRAGON.

forward.

draniatically.

"Stand back!" he shouted.

In all of his games or amusements George or "Dod" Dewey was equally realistic. He was sentimental and imaginative, and all fairy stories were true to him. The story of St. George and the dragon appealed to him, and he scatched the woods around the village

stream before coming to the surface For years this had stood as a record and was accepted as a tradition in Montpelier. As George Dewey grew in A BOY WITHOUT FEAR. George was almost absolutely lacking

strength he determined to beat that he-cord. One day when a big crowd lined the bank he announced his intention of surpassing the record or "dying in the attempt. He dived from the bank and remained so long under water that all were alarmed and thought him drowned. Suddenly he came to the surface, but

was so exhausted that he sank again and would have drowned had not some strong swimmer brought him to shore He was almost black in the face, but soon regained his breath. His first question was, "Did I beat him?" When told that he had beaten the record many yards he was delighted, and soon regained his strength.

For a long time young Dewey was un-decided as to whether he would prefer to be a soldier of a circus performer. He organized a circus, which he conducted with much success in the barn, chargflask of gunpowder. Whin a crowd of ing five pins admission for children and ten pins for "grownups." Any one over boys he proceeded to bore a hole in a log, which was filled with powder and ten years old was a "grown-up. The plugged up. The explosion which folperformance was a combined theater lowed was not much of a success, owing to the plug being defective. All rushed and circus. A buffalo robe served as a drop curtain, but Dr. Dewey would George waved them back not allow them to use candles as foot-The acts were mainly acrobalights.

ulgent and negligent. He began the third year determined to do his best. He applied himself to his studies, abandoned his selfish pleasures and delighted his father by finishing the ourse, graduating third in his class Ahead of him were Howell and Reed, and after him were Franklin Hite, Bish-

m, Blue, Whittie, Kerr and Krautz, of he first eleven. Graduating as a midshipman in 1858, he went on his first cruise in Mediterranean waters on the Wabash. His subsequent record is that of a man and not as a boy, and is too well known to warrant even a recaptulation in this sketch.

Admiral Dewey is on record as say-ng that the two events which had most to do with shaping his career were the whipping given him by his school prin-cipal. Mr. Pangborn, and the lecture by his father when he was making a failure at Annapolis. Certain it is that there was little in his career up to the age of nineteen which held out any promise of future greatness or which could be used to point a moral for the guidance of the present or future gen-erations. All of which should be encouraging to the parents of thousands of boys of the same type as the sub-ject of this sketch. It is not safe to predict the future of a man from his tic, and George was the star performer. | conduct as a boy,

ADMIRAL CERVERA MAY BE WITNESS



his regarded as extremely probable that Admiral Cervers. Schley's oppoat at Santiago will be requested to testify at the Schley court of inquiry a the Yankes rear-admiral's conduc t under fire. Cervera has already ex-Runed himself as being an ardent ad mirer of Schley.

annow www.www.www.www.www.www.www. The origin of the fairy tales one The walls of the ruins had been side. shaken by the earthquakes of the hears in his childhood is in most cases tropics, until scarcely one stone rested upon another. Whatever iron work as unknown as the tale themselves are marvelous. Probably no story of a there had been in its construction was years ago carried away, and little re-mained to give more than a suggestion man's youth is better remembered than the wonderful tale of Bluebeard, who of the previous form or style. was so fond of killing his wives. A curious sidelight is thrown upon this

an manna m

"The building had been a fort about one-half the size of Castle Williams, on Governor's Island, built of great story by one of the officers in the Brooklyn navy yard, who was at one blocks of stone and practically impregnable, A company of men with amtime stationed upon the cruiser New munition could have held the place against an army in those days. In "High up on a mountainside which front and beneath it lay the bay, looking as though a stone dropped from the hand would strike the water. Behind overlooks a bay in the island of St. Thomas, West Indies, are the ruins or a stone fortress. Throughout all the

it towered the mountain. "In the interior we found the key to the place. In the center of the ground floor a large opening or fissure leads tle." Many are the tales told of this directly downward through the mounmysterious place around the camp fires tain into a great cave which we had previously noticed on the water's edge. island. 'Bluebcard,' according to these narratives, was an did pirate who per-"To convince us that it did lead down to the water, our guide picked up a large stone and, holding it over the opening, let it drop. A moment later narratives, was an did pirate who per-petrated many bloody deeds years and years ago, all of which have become in-terwoven into the folkiore of the island. "One morning the New York droppen anchor in the harbor. It is a land-locked bay, except for a narrow en-trance, such as one finds in many of the West Indian islands. At one side a mountain rises abruptly from the we could hear a loud splash as it struck the water below. According to the story told by

natives on the island, Bluebeard, in the course of his sailings, discovered this with the fissure in the mountain Clearing away the top of this side. opening, he built a fort and storehouse combined. Whenever he captured a ship he brought it to St. Thomas and van it into the cave to conceal it. Then from the fort above he holsted up the valuables. After that the ship would be taken outside the harbor and souttled. After the pirate's death the place was abandoned, the hurricane and earthquakes of the tropics got in their work, and little now remains except the great fissure, the cave and a few crumbling blocks of stone.

"The lore of St. Thomas contains many legends of the castle, and among them is a variation of the story of the murder of the wives. According to the island story the pirate had only three wives and they were in each case beautiful women captured on ships he had pirated. All of the wives were murdered as Bluebeard became dissatisfied with them, and they are supposed to have been buried in some cavern of whom we intred to guide us. A har-row, steep path from the shore wound in and out among the rocks and trop-ical vegetation until it finally brought us to the little shelf on the mountain. York Times. the fortress. At any rate, the island-ers have a superstitious dread of the place and it is seldom visited."-New



