Story for Newspaper Syndicate.

Vol. 6, No. 3.

Subject.

"Boy to the rescue."
A Boy to the Rescue.

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Bedloe's Island is situated westward across the channel from Governor's Island. This channel is a roadway in New York Harbor through which four-fifths of the large steamers pass and re-pass on their way to and from the ocean.

Bedloe's Island has but a few acres of land, not more than twenty or thirty in all. On its eastern front stands the great Statue of Liberty, which France in noble generosity presented to our country. On the western front of the island is a small marine station where there is a hospital and a few inhabitants, directly or indirectly connected with the Lighthouse Department.

For, as every New Yorker can testify, the Goddess of Liberty, who constitutes the principal part of the statue, holds a torch terminated by a brilliant light in her elevated right hand. By some contrivances bright electric lights are thrown upon the pedestal of the statue in such a way as to produce marked effects not intended. At night the whole structure gives the appearance of a queen, crowned and ornamented with extended skirts of dazzling brightness.

It is, of course, the duty of the Lighthouse department to keep these lights burning during the night.

On the north side of the little island, until recently, there has been a small garrison of troops. This garrison did not generally exceed fifty men. The last detail sent there by the government was a company of the sixth infantry, U. S. army, commanded by Captain A. M. Wetherill.

At the time of which I am writing Capt. Wetherill had with him two or three lieutenants, among whom was Lieut. Frank D. Webster. The special duty of this command was to guard the statue against any or all persons who might be disposed to deface or otherwise
A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

The present situation is one of transition to a new system of government. The present system, as a temporary arrangement, was designed to meet the exigencies of the moment. The future system, as a permanent arrangement, will be the result of a mature judgment and careful consideration of the best interests of the people.

The present system is based on the principle of democracy. It is a system of government in which the people have the power to elect their representatives and to control the actions of the government. The future system will be based on the same principle, but it will be improved and perfected in every detail.

The present system has certain defects which need to be corrected. The future system will be designed to overcome these defects. It will be a system of government which is more efficient, more just, and more stable.

We look forward to the future with confidence. We believe that the people of this country are capable of governing themselves wisely and justly. We believe that the future system of government will be a system which will serve the people well.
injure it, and to preserve order, as a special police among the inhabitants and numerous visitors who are constantly coming and going.

Toward sunset on the eighteenth of January, 1893, the several officers and many of the men belonging to this garrison, which is designated in army orders as Fort Word, were skating on the ice which, in an unusual freeze-up, had formed so as to cover the whole stretch of water from Bedloe's Island to the New Jersey shore.

As twilight was approaching, the officers, excepting Lieut. Webster, and the men took off their skates and went back to the island. For just then they heard the first call for retreat, the final roll-call of the day. Webster lingered, probably to look after Max Wetherill (a boy of about fourteen years, the son of Capt. Wetherill), who continued skating. Scattered about on the ice were three or four children belonging to the lighthouse employees. Farther from the island, toward what are known as the National Docks, could be seen the figures of a man and woman walking on the ice. The man was going toward the woman, having accomplished the object that he had in venturing out upon the ice, that is to say, to be able to tell his friends that he had walked on ice all the way from Bedloe's Island to the National Docks.

This worthy citizen, an engineer in the lighthouse department at Bedloe's Island, Mr. Charles Miller, had been but a short time married, and the woman seen upon the ice was his good wife. How could they better celebrate the termination of their Honeymoon than by taking a charming, almost miraculous evening walk upon the water? But, however praiseworthy and precious the original purpose the immediate consequences were not propitious. For, as on his returning steps, his venturesome wife drew near to meet him, he was filled with alarm and horror to behold her sinking through the treacherous ice.
Towards speed up the implementation of Tamani, 1988, the Bentley

Office and work of the men planning to participate, which is

secretary to stay active as Port Warden, making copies on the

which is a moment for us, this must come to an end and

success of a general idea before it is to the new project.

As a preliminary, we propose the following:

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He instantly flew to her assistance, for he thought only of her extreme peril. But, as soon as his feet touched the plate of ice, already cracking in spangles, he also broke through and like his wife sank to his chin.

Now, chilled by the plunge, both of them were throwing forward their arms, and by their desperate struggles causing the edges of the broken ice to crumble before them.

The tide-current was at this time swift and incisive and every spring Mr. Miller made to throw himself upon the surface, crushed out and drove away cakes newly severed from the mass.

All that they really effected for their own relief was done by keeping their heads above the black waters and calling loudly for help.

Webster and Max Wetherill, when this double catastrophe was taking place, were some three hundred yards off, still skating.

The lad Max, probably hearing the alarming cries, was the first to catch sight of this imperilled couple, but dimly seen in the evening haze.

He shouted to the lieutenant, and both started, swiftly skating to the rescue. Webster, being stronger and an expert, arrived first at the place of disaster. Knowing the danger of approaching too closely the edge of the crackling ice, the young lieutenant wisely threw his overcoat to the engineer, cheering and encouraging him by his voice. He thought rightly that before it became wet through and heavy the sufferers could spread it before them on the ice, lean upon it and so gain time.

While they were trying to obey his orders and heed his suggestions he ventured a little nearer, and there, lying prone upon his face, stretched out his hands to the now frightened and shivering woman, she being the nearest to him.

Max meanwhile had come up quite too close for safety and was
wager to do something toward the rescue.

"What can I do?" he cried.

"Catch my feet, and hold them securely," answered the lieutenant.

This the boy did, but the water, increasing above the ice showed it to be still sinking, and the rescuers themselves were already in imminent danger. Just at that time, several soldiers heard belonging to Captain Wetherill's company, having Max's shrill outcry, had run toward them with all their might and were now approaching the scene.

Among the soldiers were Leroy S. Hotchkiss and Dennis Ginney, who were thoughtful enough to bring ropes, and Charles F. Rodenstein, who had the good sense to provide himself with a board.

Hotchkiss at once bravely exchanged places with the lieutenant, while the latter extended the board as near to the woman as possible. Hotchkiss now grasped both her hands, for she was too paralyzed to make further effort, and drew her upon the board, a line with clasped hands having been formed to give them necessary assistance to the firmer ice. Thus Mrs. Miller was saved.

While this effort was succeeding, Dennis Ginney had thrown a rope after the manner of the Mexican lariat over the head of Mr. Miller, who had by this time become so benumbed that he could not use his hands enough to hold it. He however, to prevent its choking him, seized the rope with his teeth and by this means was slowly drawn out of the water.

It has taken some time to relate these incidents of rescue but all the work was speedily accomplished, yet none too soon, for the whole field of ice was fast becoming too weak to hold up so large a party.

There was great joy at the island as soon as all,—the rescuers and the rescued,—were safe upon the dry land.

Lieutenant Webster and all the men were inclined to make Max
Wanted to communicate toward the resence.

"What can I get for you?"

"Call my feet and phone them emmerl, the answer and important.

"This is for you, Mr. their water. Important please note.

Some of the details involved and the collected proceedings were

stated in the letter. Kate and then same ways of sending and giving

to the message.

What then Helen was posted in the corner and plane of

some were a hundred amount of time above and given.

..."
Wetherill the veritable hero of the occasion.

At the next annual encampment of Captain Wetherill's company, "A" of the sixth infantry, at Fort Niagara, not far from Buffalo, New York, as department commander I had the privilege and honor of presenting government medals to each of the above named rescuers. There was a large assembly and a formal parade of the garrison, and one may imagine the pride and pleasure which Captain and Mrs. Wetherill experienced when the name of Alexander Macomb Wetherill,—for that was Max's full name,—was called,—

When he, covered with blushes, stepped out to the front of the parade and received his medal of honor, a spontaneous shout of applause greeted him.

His father, now that he is approaching the requisite age, has sought for the lad an appointment to a cadetship at the military academy.

We are glad indeed to notice and record such noble acts of heroism put forth in the saving of human life; and indeed it is better to save than to destroy.

Portland, Oregon,

Dec. 8, 1894.

Oliver O. Howard

Maj.-Gen. U. S. Army,

(Retired).
We hereby inform you that a letter has been received from the office of the

We feel it necessary to inform you that we have not yet received

Please inform us of any further information required.

H. Holland

Dec. 8, 1884