

"MEMORY'S TRAGIC LEAP"

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Norman Stevens, a sober industrious workingman finds himself in bad straits at his home town in a small village of Massachusetts. For months he has been out of employment and to add to his load of misfortune, his little boy, an only child, has been taken ill and for weeks has been hovering between life and death.

Dr.Rogers the village physician has been constantly in attendance and when the child is out of danger the doctor calls to pay his last visit. Stevens explains that he is without funds but assures the physician that he will pay him as soon as he secures a pritien which he hopes to get by going to New York.

Stevens arrives in New York and after many disappointments obtains a position in one of the skyscrapers as an iron worker. His streak of good fortune is short lived as during the second day of his work he makes a mis-step on one of the iron girders and his body crashes down to the rock strewn cellar. Upon regaining consciousness at the hospital he is unable to tell his name or anything of himself.

When his physical condition warrants it, he is discharged from the hospital as cured. By some freak he adopts the name of Long and starts anew his life, forgetting completely the wife and baby left in the small village.

Fifteen years later young Stevens now a handsome lad of twenty, tired of the struggle in a small village bids his mother good-bye and starts for the mecca of fortune-seekers in New York. He finds it difficult to obtain employment and after tramping the streets until his money is all gone he becomes discouraged and disheartened.

While seated at Battery Park near the sea wall, brooding over his ill-fortune, his mind drifts to distruction but the memory of a loving mother awaiting him dispels these evil thoughts. Hunger finally overcomes him and he falls from the bench.

Guard are strolling through the park and see the boy in this pitiful state; Long assists the boy, obtains a position for him at the New York Eighty Million Aqueduct, persuades him to become a member of the N.Y.National Guard and thus, father and son become companions without any hint of their relationship.

The National Guard is called to participate in the military maneuvers to be held in Connecticut; while at their encampment the New York boys are visited by their neighbors

from Massachusetts. Dr.Rogers who is surgeon of the Massachusetts Regiment meets Captain Long and accuses him of being the missing Norman Stevens, which Long and his friends indignantly deny.

Young Stevens and Dr.Rogers later on again confront Long and the boy denounces the Captain. Dr.Rogers is startled at the dazed look which comes to the Captain's eyes and upon a close examination discovers that the man is suffering from loss of memory due to the pressure of a piece of bone upon the brain. The Dector explains this to the son and an operation of trephining is decided upon. The operation, one of the most dangerous in medical history, proves successful, and the man who for twenty years lived a dual life, regains his proper senses and is welcomed by a loving wife and grown-up son.

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