The Peril in a Sunb

The most agitated man I met in the recent presidential campaign was one who saw a life-long & almost realized ambition prevented by the election of a certain candidate. It took but little acumen on the part of a disinterested observer to know that this aspirant would now be president of the U.S. ~~candidate had no chance~~; but my interlocutor's ~~had~~ ~~person~~ fears had destroyed his political sense judgment. That is the way fear operates.

It was the reason the man gave for the fate hanging over him that interested me. Ten years before he said he was an engagingly frank person he had deliberately snubbed the candidate for no other reason than that he

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"didn't like his manners". The sub had been administered in the presence of others and had been felt by the victim and here was the victim on top — seen to have the power — & my man believed he would have the will — to ruin his ambition.

What a fool he had been — and what a cad! He seemed to be getting for the first time in his life a glimpse of what it is to be a gentleman! —

His experience is not so unusual. There are many of us called to face the perfect trial — smiles one implacable bride while ~~almost~~ often come home to rest. You regularly find them perching on bewildered heads as you read this. Here's a story of one such historical find — ~~unearthed~~ unearthed 20 or more years ago

Digital Image, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

When But here's the story. I was looking for somebody who had been on one side or the other of a famous trial in which Abraham Lincoln first met Edwin M. Stanton.

Stanton was was a "great man" - both in his own estimation and in that of his profession. Lincoln was "great" neither to himself or anybody else; and Stanton the known succeeded in making Lincoln the unknown feel that there was a deep gulf both professionally and socially between them.

Digital Image, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1900-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

Digital Image, 2011, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

The Peril in a Snub

The most agitated man I met in the recent presidential campaign was one who saw a life-long and almost realized ambition forever ruined by the election of a certain candidate. It took but little acumen on the part of a disinterested observer to know that this aspirant would never be president of the United States, but my interlocutor's fears had destroyed his political sense. That is the way fear operates.

It was the reason the man gave for the fate hanging over him that interested me. Ten years before he said - he was an engagingly frank person - he had deliberately snubbed the candidate for no other reason than that he "didn't like his manners." The snub had been administered in the presence of others and had been felt by the victim. And here was the victim on top - soon to have the power, - and my man believed he would have the will - to ruin his ambition.

What a fool he had been - and what a cad! He seemed to be getting for the first time in his life a glimpse of what it is to be a gentleman!

His experience is not so unusual. There are many of us called to face the fact that snubs are unpleasant birds which

often come home to roost. You frequently find them perching on humiliated heads as you read history. Here is a story of one such historical find - unearthed twenty or more years ago when I was looking for somebody who had been on one side of the other of a famous trial in which Abraham Lincoln first met Edwin M. Stanton.

Stanton was a "great man" - both in his own estimation and in that of his profession. Lincoln was "great" neither to himself or anybody else; and Stanton, the known, succeeded in making Lincoln, the unknown, feel that there was a deep gulf both professionally and socially between them.

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