

**THE
TELEGRAPH BOY**

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The telegraph boy by Horatio Alger Jr.

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HORATIO ALGER JR.

**THE
TELEGRAPH BOY**

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BOYS
AND
GIRLS.



THE
TELEGRAPH BOY.

BY

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AND

FLORINE ARNOLD,

This Story

IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.



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PREFACE.



THE "Telegraph Boy" completes the series of sketches of street-life in New York inaugurated eleven years since by the publication of "Ragged Dick." The author has reason to feel gratified by the warm reception accorded by the public to these pictures of humble life in the great metropolis. He is even more gratified by the assurance that his labors have awakened a philanthropic interest in the children whose struggles and privations he has endeavored faithfully to describe. He feels it his duty to state that there is no way in which these waifs can more effectually be assisted than by contributing to the funds of "The Children's Aid Society," whose wise and comprehensive plans for the benefit of their young wards have already been crowned with abundant success.

The class of boys described in the present volume was called into existence only a few years since, but they are already so numerous that one can scarcely ride down town by any conveyance without having one for a fellow-passenger. Most of them reside with their parents and have comfortable homes, but a few, like the hero of this story, are wholly dependent on their own exertions for a livelihood. The variety of errands on which they are employed, and their curious experiences, are by no means exaggerated in the present story. In its preparation the author has been assisted by an excellent sketch published perhaps a year since in the "New York Tribune."

HORATIO ALGER, JR.

NEW YORK, Sept. 1, 1879.