

"A MARINE, SIR!"

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"A Marine, Sir!" by Edward Champe Carter

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By

EDWARD CHAMPE CARTER

Author of "The Lone Scout," "Eight Bells," etc.

*With a Foreword by John A. Lejeune, Major General
Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps*



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DEDICATED TO

*Major General John A. Lejeune, U.S.M.C.,
a Bayard to his "Boys," and a Du Guesclin to
the world at large, as a very inadequate mode of
thanks for all he has done, and stood for, to the
"Boy" of another fellow.*

EDWARD CHAMPE CARTER,

*Patapsco Manor,
Ellicott City, Maryland.*

Sept. 15, 1921.

B + J. Nov. 30/21.



FOREWORD

Among the most potent of the myriad of forces whose action and reaction moulds the minds of the citizens of a country, or the members of a race, is that exerted by those who compose its popular romances, whether they be Greek epics, Norse sagas, Elizabethan plays, or modern novels. Who can say how much of the sagacity and daring of the Greeks of the days of Pericles was founded on the deathless verse of Homer, or can measure the effect of the soul-stirring tales of the Elder Edda in forming the rude nobility of mind and the utter fearlessness of the vikings? Among modern nations we have an example still more in point in the wonderful patriotic literature of the British Empire, whose popular writers in every national emergency have united to rouse and gird their race for the course appointed by its destiny.

To all of those who write, exalting the virtues of patriotism and devotion to duty, the nation owes a debt of gratitude, but there are none who deserve more highly of the state than those writers of books for boys who have wrought faithfully and with unflagging enthusiasm in

FOREWORD

upbuilding in the minds of its future citizens the virtues of honor, chivalry and courage, and a realization of the sacredness of their country and their country's flag.

In his books for boys Mr. Carter has voiced the ideals of war-time service in a manner worthy of the high traditions of his family and of the splendid record for self-sacrifice and devotion in behalf of the lives and health of others of his father, Doctor Henry R. Carter the distinguished Assistant Surgeon General of the Public Health Service. In his present volume he emphasizes an equally important, but often neglected ideal; service to the nation in time of peace. For his endeavor to awaken in the minds of the boys of today who are to be the citizens of tomorrow the realization of the fact that the nation is constantly in need of the service of its sons, in peace as well as in war, Mr. Carter deserves the warmest approbation and thanks.

JOHN A. LEJEUNE,
*Major General Commandant, U. S. Marine
Corps, Washington, D. C.*