THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BOYS IN SUMMER ATHLETICS: OR, DICK & CO. MAKE THEIR FAME SECURE

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The Grammar School Boys in Summer Athletics: Or, Dick & Co. Make Their Fame Secure by H. Irving Hancock

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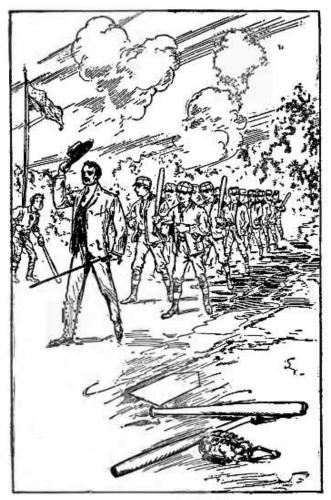
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H. IRVING HANCOCK

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At the Head Marched Old Dut.

Frontiepieco-G. S. B. in Summer Athletics.

The Grammar School Boys in Summer Athletics

OR

Dick & Co. Make Their Fame Secure

By

H. IRVING HANCOCK

Author of The Grammar School Boys of Gridley, The Grammar School
Boys Snowbound, The Grammar School Boys in the Woods,
The High School Boys' Series, The West Point Series, The
Annapolis Series, The Young Engineers' Series,
The Boys of the Army Series, The
Motor Boat Club Series, Etc.

Illustrated

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The Grammar School Boys in Summer Athletics

CHAPTER I

A JOLT ON A QUIET DAY

"HERE'S just one thing that I keep thinking about on a day like this," Dave Darrin sighed contentedly.

"What's that?" Tom Reade wanted to know.

"Supper!"

Darrin turned, favoring Reade with a flash of disgust from his large, dark eyes.

"I'm still waiting for the information," in-

sisted Tom after a short pause.

"You may as well wait," retorted Dave.
"You wouldn't understand what I feel, anyway. Any fellow who can keep his mind on supper, on a grand June day like this—"

"I imagine that you'll keep your mind on the meal when you reach the table," predicted

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Tom, grinning.

"That'll be time enough," Dave rejoined. "But I'm not going to profane the woods, on a perfect June day, by thinking of kitchen odors."

"Say, aren't you feeling well?" asked Tom

gravely.

"That's just the point, I guess," broke in Dick Prescott, with a light laugh. "Dave is feeling so extremely well and happy——"

"Now, you're shouting," Darrin assented. "But it's no use for poor Reade to ponder over the glories of nature. All he can think of is

the region bounded by his belt."

"Glories of nature?" repeated Reade. "If that's what you're talking about, why didn't you announce your subject earlier? Yes, sir; nature is at her greenest best to-day. Just look off through that line of trees, and see how the light breeze moves the tops in that field of young corn, and——"

"Corn?" flared Dave. "Something to eat, of course! Tom, you're hopeless when it comes to the finer things of life. You ought to have been born in a pen, close to a well-filled trough. Corn, indeed!"

"This country would probably be bankrupt if there were no corn crop, and you'd be digging hard for a living, instead of being a lazy schoolboy," retorted Reade, with an indulgent smile. "Let me see; how many hundred million dol-

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lars did Old Dut tell us the annual corn crop brings in wealth to this country?"

All of the other boys, save Dave, glanced at Tom, but all shook their heads. Statistics do not mix well in a Grammar School boy's head.

"Oh, well, it was a lot of money, anyway,"
Tom pursued his subject. "I wouldn't mind
having all the money that the American corn
crop brings."

"So you could buy the fanciest kinds of food,

I suppose?" jeered Dave Darrin.

"Never mind, Darry; if I had a lot of money I'd buy you the biggest and softest mattress I could find, so that you'd have nothing to do but lie off by yourself, look up at the green leaves and dream your summers away. That lying on your back and looking up at the sky is what you call reverie, isn't it?"

"Quit your kidding!" ordered Dave.

"Is it reverie?" asked Harry Hazelton, "or just plain laziness that ails Dave?"

"Laziness, of course," laughed Tom. "Dave, I guess Harry has more sense in naming things than any of us. Yes; that's it! And Dick thought it was merely poetic temperament."

"Temperament? What's that?" grinned Dan Dalzell. "Is that what you get in June by adding up the column of figures in the thermometer?"