

**BOYS OF THE FORT,
OR, A YOUNG
CAPTAIN'S PLUCK**

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Boys of the Fort, or, a Young Captain's Pluck by Ralph Bonehill

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RALPH BONEHILL

**BOYS OF THE FORT,
OR, A YOUNG
CAPTAIN'S PLUCK**



DEFENDING THE FORT.—*Frontispiece,*
Boys of the Fort.

Strake meyer, Edward

BOYS OF THE FORT

Or, A Young Captain's Pluck

BY

CAPTAIN RALPH BONEHILL

AUTHOR OF "THE YOUNG LANDMASTER," "WHEN SANTIAGO
FELL," "A SAILOR BOY WITH DEWEY," "OFF
FOR HAWAII," ETC.



GROSSET & DUNLAP
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Or, A Young Captain's Pluck.

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PREFACE.

"BOYS OF THE FORT" is a complete story in itself, but forms the fifth volume of a line of works issued under the general title of "Flag of Freedom Series."

In penning this tale I had it in mind to acquaint my young readers with the ins and outs of military life at one of our Western forts of to-day, showing what both officers and privates are called upon to do, and what troubles the Indians and the bad men of that locality are still in the habit of making. The field is one about which little has been written, although abounding in interest, and one which is worthy the attention of all who have the proper development of our country at heart.

To some, certain scenes in this book may appear overdrawn, yet such is far from being the case. In this wild territory there are those who have lived all their lives beyond the pale of civilization, men who grow up dwarfed and crooked in mind, and who resent every effort made to better their condition.

The young captain is a fine specimen of the

wide-awake American army officer, yet he is no more brave and dashing than are thousands of others, officers and privates, who serve under our Flag of Freedom. He is trained to do his duty, and he simply does it, regardless of possible consequences.

Once more I take this opportunity to thank my young friends for the kindness with which they have received my former stories, and I earnestly hope this present tale merits equal commendation.

CAPTAIN RALPH BONEHILL.

July 1, 1901.

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