

**FISHING WITH A
BOY: THE TALE OF
A REJUVENATION**

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Fishing with a Boy: The Tale of a Rejuvenation by Leonard Hulit

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The Tale of a Rejuvenation

By
LEONARD HULIT



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George R. ...*

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DEDICATION

To Joseph B. Cawthorn, whose genial comradery on ocean, lake, and stream, extending through many years, has been an inexpressible delight, and whose love of fishing is exceeded only by his devotion to his friends and his "art," which has earned for him the soubriquet "The Man of a Million Smiles," this volume is dedicated.

THE AUTHOR.



INTRODUCTION

IN introducing this character sketch of the boy "Matt" to the public no attempt has been made to have it appear an ambitious work, but rather the simple tale of a red-blooded country boy who knew fish and fishing far better than school books.

It was his misfortune to be orphaned early in life, so his subsequent training devolved entirely upon his "Aunt Mary," who, while a rather stern disciplinarian, keeping him within wholesome bounds, still was never unduly severe, and who took a perhaps pardonable pride in attributing his virtues to what she termed her method of "bringing of him up."

That his love of the wild things of the woods and waters was intuitive must be believed from his habit of searching out for his own delectation many of their mysterious ways while at a very tender age.

And while unlettered and uncouth in many ways, he was respected throughout the community in which he passed his life as an exponent of uncompromising integrity.

Mr. Woodhull, when the writer first knew him, was an anæmic, broken man, due to over-zealous attention to business matters, who built back rapidly to health and vigor through the effects of

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open air and sunshine, found in his rambles with the lad over woodland and meadow.

While their stations in life were widely divergent, yet there grew up between them a lasting attachment and affection.

The lad's aptitude for acquiring knowledge was not confined to the living things he met with. Trees and plants were the subjects of his continual investigations, and he had the quaintest of expressions in readiness to evolve his ideas of their ways. In fact, a veritable "Natty Bumppo" of later days, and, like his prototype, he loved the solitude of the forest, and in later life spent much of his time in such haunts in quest of its wild inhabitants.

He devotedly cared for his Aunt Mary during the remaining years of her life, his traps, gun, and "fishin' pole" being important factors to that end.

While most of the fishes discussed in these chapters are of the humbler varieties, still they are important. Vastly important to the legions of oncoming youths, who, if in their turn will lend attentive ear to the call of the "pond and brook" and learn the lessons so plainly portrayed on "nature's chart," will not only become stronger and better men because of it, but, as Matt would say, "You allus know things better when you find 'em out yourself."

Many of the photos are of the territory over which the boy rambled and fished. The old