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ABILITY and assistance in working out to perfection a system in which those who are not blinded by prejudice can see the dawning of a new era in British national defence.

HOW GRANT GOT TO KNOW RAWLINS.

"I was born a few miles from Galena," said General Rawlins, "and moved in there when I was in my twenties. Soon after entering the bar, I got, by some luck or good word, the law business for the leather and hardware store of Jesse Grant. It was a large, fine store, built deep, with only a place below for sizing the skins, which were tanned at Covington, Kentucky. I don't know how General Grant's father got into business at Galena, but there was a Mrs. Lee living there, halfsister to General Grant's mother, and her house was next door to mine.

"Her favorite topic of conversation was Captain Grant, or Ulysses, as she generally called him, who was represented to me as the flower of the flock. He had been in the Army, at West Point, and in Mexico, and Mrs. Lee represented that he made a particularly handsome figure on horseback. I had quite a curiosity at least to see this member of the family, for up our way we had a great idea of a Mexican war soldier, the extent of our heroes being private soldiers of that war. I was sixteen when it broke out, and was almost crazy to get permission to enlist."

"Well, general, did Grant come at last?" "Yes, I saw him under those anticipations a few days after he came. I had previously seen all his brothers, and not one of them was a sagacious business man. I looked cautiously at Grant, and under his simplicity saw the marks of power given him by nature and command. He was not a banker at Galena, but a clerk. He sometimes, at solicitations, sat on the store counter and related incidents of Mexico, a country that seems to have stirred him to enthusiasm by its beauty and resources, and he holds the same regard for it still. I got to know General Grant slowly and respectfully, and it was not till after the beginning of the war that I found out that..."
he had my specific liking for me."

"Well, general, I see you are coughing. I will ask the rest another time.

"I am talking too much, but I'll finish. The war matter grew before Grant had become half acquainted

in Galena. He was not an arger on politics, but he had

been an old-line Whig and cast a vote in 1856 for Buch-

man. I was a Douglas Democrat, and took the stump

time. Grant told me that he had a great admiration

for Lincoln. He had read, as they were made, the

speeches between Lincoln and Douglas, and said it was

a nice question to say who got the best of the argument.

We counted on him as a Douglas Democrat, though all

his brothers were Republicans. Some time during the

campaign, John E. Smith, a soldier of the Mexican war,

burst upon the town with a magnificent display of Wide-

Awakes, whom he had drilled secretly. This mortified

our side a good deal, and we resolved to get up a similar

organization. We thought we would elect Captain

Grant the marshal of it, or in his stead, should he de-

cline, John Malby, afterward brigadier general.

"I was one of the committee to call on Grant. He

said that he was beginning business, and should have

to decline entering into politics. We therefore chose

Malby. Grant went on with his store, selling harness,

saddlery, and hardware, and got into the firm at last.

Lincoln was elected. Grant said from that time that the

South would fight. I could not bring my mind to con-

template this, but the captain seemed to be positive, and

from that day began to speak often of his military

education, his debt therefor to the country, and talk with

me upon the capacities of the North to raise troops.

About that time he wrote a letter, so expressing him-

self, to a man in Missouri, and this letter Albert D.

Richardson, unknown to Grant, found out and inserted

in his book. When Santer was attacked we all looked

to Grant, Smith, and Malby. The former went to work

at once, accepted the presidency of recruiting meetings,

and we three, with Bowley (afterward on the staff),

went to Galena and to Hanover, and raised that com-

pany for three months' service. Sixty-two men out of

its eighty-odd afterward enlisted for the war.
"In this season I saw new energies in Grant. A larger career had opened before him. He dropped a steep-shouldered way he had of walking, and set his hat forward on his forehead in a less careless fashion. Yet he never seemed to have an ambition above a regimental rank, and all his talk with me was upon the best place in a regiment that I should try for. He became a carpet-bagger then, and I saw him as he left Galena with his traps in hand.

"Rawlins,' he cried, 'if I see anything that will suit you, I'll send you word.'

"Do, captain!"

"I took my sick wife eastward soon afterward, and saw in the New York Tribune that Grant had been made a brigadier-general, and also found a letter forwarded from him, saying: 'Rawlins, I am entitled to a captain and acting adjutant-general; I guess you had better come and take it.' I therefore withdrew from a regiment that I was missing, and doubtful of my capacity to be independently useful, so inexperienced, I joined Grant at Cairo.

"He had an office in a great bank there, and I was amazed at the quiet, prompt way in which he handled the multitude of letters, requisitions, and papers, sitting behind the cashier's window-hole, with a waste basket under him, and clerks to dispatch business as he did.

"Beyond my friendship for Grant, I felt that I was going to be attached to a man equal to the enlarging situation. And so I have remained with him ever since."

This is the plain and republican history of a village acquaintance that has become historical. I felt pained that I had made General Rawlins speak beyond his strength, and hastened to withdraw.—Correspondence Hartford Post.