



The Chronicle of Nineteen Nine



HEN, at the space of many days after copy was to be due, ye class scribe sought to bestir himself, and write of the glories and the triumphs of the tribe of 1909.

2 And he sat him down and wrote profusely, and he waxed exceeding enthusiastic.

3 Thereupon he bethought himself that the glory of his chronicle would be such as would outshine all other tribes.

4 He said to himself, Lo, in the book of the recording angel is the history written, and it is exact and full of truth;

5 Behold, I will go hence, and copy for myself this history from the book of life.

6 And past the hour of midnight, he laid him down to sleep, being exceeding tired with pondering.

7 Then in his dreams, a man with wings of wondrous whiteness came unto him, and made plain to him how that he should secure this log from the book of truth.

8 For he said, Your quest for veracity hath found favor in mine eyes.

9 ¶ Straightway in the morning he rose himself up and purified himself, and put clean linen upon him.

10 And came down to the place which is called Tech.

11 There he made known his mission to them which sat in the seats of the mighty, yea, even unto the Deans;

12 And it came to pass that they did approve of the plan, and did command the captains of their diverse hosts to fall in favorably with it.

13 ¶ Now a certain professor of the land, the same which is called Radt-ke did evolve a new plan of electricity,

14 Producing a film of waves of that force which should envelop round about a thing for to shield it from falling, lest at any time it should strike the earth.

15 The action of gravity pulled it down not at all, but it hung in the air as a bird on the wing.

16 And a certain wise man, surnamed McFarland (which by interpretation and integration is Free-bowdy),

17 Arose up and saith unto the scribe, Behold, I have in mind a gas engine, the likeness of which has never yet been seen.

18 Come, let us make a machine which shall fly through the air.

19 Thereupon the mechanicals of the tribe of 1909 set to work in their shops, and made articles of brass, and articles of iron, and shortly it was finished.

20 Then it was set up in the center of the place which is called Og-den Field, and they made haste to prepare it for the journey.

21 They which were skilled in the arts of chemistry and in the making of fearful smells, did concentrate food that it might not take up space;

22 And the Civ-ils did furnish an al-ti-tude-azimuth with five solar attachments and diverse articles for to guide the machine through the heavens.

23 And they wrote a sign in gold at the top thereof, The Chariot of the Tribe of 1909.

CHAPTER II.

THEN the scribe did choose these men for to see to the voyage:—

2 Crane, the captain of the tribe of '09, and a mighty navigator;

3 Boblett, a man skilled in the making and the running of engines, and Grassby, a builder of motor-cycles for to help him;

4 Zanzig, an expert in the use of slip-sticks and hot air;

5 Simpson, which is well versed in many things, for to keep the craft from falling.

6 Johnson, a wise and good man, for to pilot them heavenward;

7 And Evans, a genial man, for the scribe saith to himself, Lo, the smile of his countenance shall even rival the light of the sun.

8 ¶ Then with loud hosannas from the multitude, they did loose from earth about the ninth hour.

9 Behold, the machine did arise, yea, straight into the heavens did it fly.

10 Now, when they were an hundred and fifty cubits above the earth, Zanzig did commence to talk, so that they threw him over-board.

11 And he found himself in deep water.