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NO 42

Reading Room
House of Commons

PAID HIS BILLS IN FIGHTS.

Whipped a Landlord and a Lawyer Until They Called It Even.

In relating a fight he once had with a man from Illinois Mr. S. H. Piles of Paducah says: "At that time I lived in Smithland. W. P. Fowler was judge; I was sheriff; J. W. Code was clerk; Blount Hodge was there; Ben Barnes, Dr. Sanders, T. C. Leach, Judge Bennet, J. W. Bush and many others of the old timers lived there then. I kept a hotel called the Waverly House. This man from Illinois put up with me. I gave him one of the best rooms. He staid several days. I got uneasy about my bill and asked him for it. He said that I was in a hurry and that he would pay it whenever he got ready. I very foolishly told him that if he did not pay me right then I would take it out of his hide. He pulled off his coat and said he was ready to settle, and we went at it. We fought for some time, and I thought I had whipped him, but I am sorry to say that I was mistaken. He rested a short time and jumped on me again. When we fought out this round, I again thought I had him whipped. But, alas, I was again mistaken, for he rested for a time and came at me again. By this time I was very tired of the fight. He got me down on the floor, and, after thinking about it for years, I think I was whipped. When he let me get up, I told him he did not owe me a cent and could stay at the Waverly House free of charge as long as he wanted to.

"This man from Illinois had a lawsuit in our court, and David Groer was his lawyer. David had the suit up in nice shape and expected a big fee, but alas for David! This man from Illinois, flushed with victory after getting through with me, concluded to settle with David as he had with me. He went to David's office and told him he had settled his bill with Sam Piles, and now he was ready to pay him his fee in the same way. David got up out of his chair and backed himself up in the corner and told the man from Illinois that he did not owe him a cent, and also told him that if it would be unpleasant for him to stay longer with me he could go home with him, and it would cost him nothing to stay as long as he desired to. But the man from Illinois had not completed his mission at Smithland as yet. He owed Tom Robertson a livery stable bill. He called on him to settle. Tom told him he owed him nothing. He then called on Mr. Cade, and he told him the same thing.

"The last time I heard from this man from Illinois was that he was fighting the livery stable man at New Liberty, Ills., to get his horse out of the stable without pay, and he did so."—Louisville Dispatch.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS

The debtors of "McKay Woolen Company" are hereby notified to make immediate payment of their respective debts at the office of the Company, in Charlottetown; at which place due acquittances can be given. Debtors failing to act on this notice will be sued, without respect to persons, after the expiration of one week from date

AN INCORRIGIBLE CHARACTER.

Never had no doctor—never sick a day;
Never seen a railroad train an never rid away;
Never been no farther from home than I kin see;
Never been inside a town an never want to be;
Never read no papers what people print or print;
Never hearn the war wuz done an don't hear of it ain't;
Never been ter meetin sence I couldn't hear;
Never voted more'n once or tried ter lecture;
Never leave this country long as life'll hol;
Never git ter heaven of I never save my soul!
—Atlanta Constitution.

WHAT YOU 'LOWIN FOR EGGS?

The Question That Puzzles a Modern Young Saleswoman.

This was in one of the big retail houses in the shadow of Grace church. The man was unmistakably a farmer—not the rounded, successful and assertive farmer of the present, who can take care of himself, but the elongated, cadaverous, chin whiskered, wind worked farmer who helps his wife in her housework and who often wears her apron. He carried a basket. The care which he bestowed upon this basket was proof that it contained eggs.

He finally reached the shoe department and asked a young woman if she had any shoe blacking. She showed the old gentleman several brands. They were in bottles and some in pink covered boxes. The customer shook his head.

"I want some of that blackin," he said, "that I have had all my life and that my father had. It comes in a big, round box 'bout the size of a baby flapjack, and has a yellow label on it and a picture of a gamecock seen his reflection in the polish of a boot that a nigger has just shined up. Ain't you never seen any such blackin?"

The young woman, who had that day been transferred from the book department because she had offered a new novel to a man who asked for "Pilgrim's Progress," said she had never seen any such and that she had never heard of it.

"It would outshine all creation," said the old gentleman, "and would turn water like a goose's back. A box of it used to last in our house a whole year. Which do you think is the best, this in the bottle or the box?"

The young woman explained the qualities of each as she understood it.

"Then this in the bottle is for wimmen's shoes and this in the box is for men's? You say you put it on with a flannin rag same as you do saive? And it'll keep the leather from crackin and 'll turn water?"

He was assured on these points, and then in a hesitating manner he asked across the showcase:

"What are you 'lowin for eggs today?"

The young woman did not understand. How could she? She had never lived in the country. She had never sold goods in the general merchandise store at the crossroads. But the floorwalker who was called in had lived in Woomsocket and round about. He knew that the good old gentleman had eggs which he wanted the house to take at the highest cash price in exchange for goods.—New York Sun.

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