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| "You can't most always tell about cbildren." said Farmer Fowler to Deacon Smith. "Some on 'em turns out well and some doesn't. It allus seemed to me that all my children bad no use for me except what they could git out of me. There's my oldest boy. John. Seems to me that boy was born contrary. <br> tried all sorts o. ways makin' him obedient, but they failed-that is, all sorts $0^{\circ}$ ways except whippin' tim. That I don't belleve in. I shut him up by himself. I deprived bim of those little things children most wish for. Then I tried kindness. None $0^{\circ}$ them Then I tried kindenss. None ways worked with Johnnie." <br> "How about your other chlldren." asked the deacon, "when they were <br> "They didn't any of 'em appear to have much sense o' responsibility. If pected 'em to give up anything they thought $0^{\circ}$ doln' to help us out they didn't want to do it. Nothing must interfere with any pleasure they laid out for themselves. My youngest boy and my second girl was the best o' the lot. They're with us yet. Blly's a fust rate farm hand. and his sister Ruth is very useful, helpin' her mother with the cookin!" <br> "What became of Johnnie?" <br> "Oh. John as he grew older he got a lot of all fired ridiculous notions in hls head and was worse'n when he was a kid. He got an idee that he'd like to be a pertesser in a college. Did $y^{\prime}$ ever hear $o^{\prime}$ slch nonsense? He wanted me to spend all to edicate him for some useless job. and when I wouldn't do it he got mad and walked away, sayin' I wouldn't hear anything from him ever ag'In onless he'd done somepin wo'th doin', After all Pd done for him-keepin him in food and clothes-to treat me that away! I tell you, parents are to be pitted." <br> Then you don't think children pay?" <br> "No, they don't in the long run. When they're little tots they're kind $0^{\circ}$ cunnin' and have spasms of affec- tion fin 'em. But I never could make out whether the spasms of badness or of affection was the principal part of 'em. Anyway, after all the pains you've had with 'em they're sure about the time you get 'em to be of some use to you to go off, the gals with some feller and the boys with some girl, and you never get any return for your trouble." <br> "Didn't it pay your father to bring sou up? <br> thought that mebbe dit didn. F've often <br> The gate clicked, and a well dressed man about thrty came up the walk. The farmer put on his glasses. <br> Somepin familiar about bim." be remarked. "Seems to me 「re seen him before." <br> "Hello, dad!" sald the newcomer. You <br> You don't know me, do you?" "By gum! Yoa beant Johny, be <br> you?" <br> "Certainly I'm Johnny." <br> "Well. I want to know! Come back to see the old man, eh. my boy? Im powerful glad to see you." And be |
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