

ARMAGEDDON IS AGAIN PRODUCED

Washington, Dec. 9.—The battle of Armageddon was restaged and reenacted for the benefit of the statesmen of the nation who assembled at the Gridiron club dinner Saturday night. The man who stood at Armageddon 3000 years ago after the fight was not present.

Besides the struggle which was discovered and made famous by the colonel, there was a Bull Moose fight, a search for a vice-president at a meeting of the senate committee that is trying to find out who paid campaign contributions and why the organization of a new party to be known as the "Sons of the Landslide" the gridiron guide to office-seekers and many other topical songs.

The strike of the waiters, one of the features, happened just before the fish course. The manager of the New Willard breezed into the room

wearing a business suit of clothes. He held an anxious conversation with Secretary Shriver and both went over to President Garthe, who told the guests solemnly that owing to a little difficulty with the help the dinner would go on merrily without the food and drink, which the guests felt they of right ought to expect.

When a howl from the guests arose at this information the club members arose en masse and went out and got the terrapin, which is always the star feature of the dinner. So ably did they perform that the wait-

ers, according to the manager became jealous and went back on the job.

Among the guests who seemed most displeased about the prospective lack of food were President Taft, who bore no scars of the recent conflict; Speaker Clark and Chairmen McCombs, Hiles and Dixon, who played the talking and directing parts in an incident which was closed November 5.

SHE FOUND POOR BILL WAS A MUCH MALIGNED HORSE

"I had forgotten about horses," said the girl who likes to talk, "until I had been visiting the Owlings in the country for three days. Then Mrs. Owling said she had to go to the village to buy provisions. She sighed when she said it to my surprise, because there seemed to be nothing especially tragic in the prospect. But Mrs. Owling's brow grew more troubled. 'I'll have to drive Bill!' she moaned.

"Well, what of it?" inquired. "Mrs. Owling regarded me in a hurt sort of a way. 'What of it!' she echoed. 'Why, he's a horse in the first place and he's horribly dangerous. I can't tell you how many times he has run away. It makes me positively ill to think of him!'

"Why on earth," I asked, "do you keep him then?" "Oh," said Mrs. Owling, "we need him about the place. If the man were here he could drive Bill for us! 'That 'us' gave me a jolt. It seemed to imply that Mrs. Owling intended to have company in whatever disaster lay in store for her. 'Am I to go along on this expedition?' I inquired again.

"Of course!" Mrs. Owling cried with feverish enthusiasm. "The country is perfectly lovely in autumn and I wouldn't have you miss it for anything! If you want to I'll let you do the driving." She ended with a great air of nonchalance, although I looked at her sternly.

"Once when I was too young to know better I had driven a horse, so I didn't back down at this crisis. 'Let's go look at Bill,' I answered. "Mrs. Owling paused at the stable door and then uptied in as though she expected Bill to rush out and bite her if his meditations were rudely disturbed. Somewhere in the half-gloom a tail switched and Mrs. Owling grabbed my arm and screamed with her hand against her heart. I was getting nervous myself by this time.

"Oh, she gasped. 'I thought he had got loose!' It was precisely the tone that the keeper of a ferocious man eating tiger would have used. "Bill proved to be a large bony, gray animal built on the Gothic style. He rolled one eye at us casually and then stamped a forefoot. Mrs. Owling shrieked again.

"Lucy," said I, firmly, "stop it! If we have got to harness this creature let's begin! Sunset is only eight hours distant! What goes on him first—this corset thing or his shoes and stockings?" "We finally got Bill dressed and tied to the surrey, and he had been so amiable that I grew quite peevish at Mrs. Owling. 'I can't see,' I said, "why any one should be afraid of him. He's as lumbering as a cow and he's half asleep!"

"That's because you don't know anything at all about him! Lucy retorted, indignantly. 'He's dangerous, I tell you! Just you wait!'

"I quaked inside when I picked-up those reins. Perhaps there were unsuspected depths in Bill's nature. We started. Bill raised one foot and then lowered it with such a whack that my spinal column felt the impact. Then he raised and lowered a second, a third, a fourth. I was immensely thankful that he was not a centipede. We moved forward a yard. Then he repeated the performance.

"I reached for the whip, but Mrs. Owling caught my arm. 'Don't,' she shrieked, piteously. 'Oh, don't! Do you want us to be killed!'

"Once we met an automobile and Lucy climbed right out, shrieking at me because I stuck to the ship. The road was narrow, so I turned Bill out on one side and gripped the lines murderously as the machine approached. I felt sorry for the car if Bill decided to jump that way instead of into the ditch. He blinked as it whibbed by and never stopped switching his tail. The awful moment had passed.

"Lucy climbed back, still pale. She said there ought to be a law against automobiles and she couldn't imagine why Bill hadn't smashed things. "We got into town at last and Lucy made me hitch Bill on a side street because she said she wouldn't risk him on Main street in the crowd. She said she hoped he wouldn't pull up the telephone pole that I tied him to, or any thing.

"On the way home I managed to give Bill a surreptitious blow or two with the whip, and when he lunged forward Lucy grabbed the air and whimpered, 'There! Didn't I tell you? What on earth did he shy at?' "Bill plodded into the barn with no more animation than he had when he started. Lucy tumbled out with a deep sigh of relief. 'My!' she cried. 'I'm thankful we're at home again safe and sound! I consider that we had a very narrow escape with that automobile and then again when the factory whistle blew—don't you?" "Yes, Lucy," I told her. "I think we had a perfectly narrow escape from going to sleep both going and coming!"—Boston Post.

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