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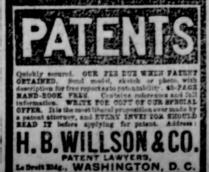


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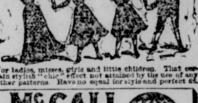


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The Irrepressible Small Boy. This is a true story, and it really happened in a New York family. It looks as if it might be an old story brought up to date or renovated for the occasion, but it is exactly as the small boy arranged it and not to the edification of his family. The small boy was very fond of ice cream. It never cloyed his palate. It was with the same delight that he saw it each time brought on the table, and upon each of these times he

showed the exuberance of his feelings

by crying in rapturous tones: "Oh-o-o! Ice cream! Ice cream! Ice cream! much to his mamma's annovance. "People will think we never have ice cream or anything else to eat," she said to her son one day. "Now, we are going to have company to dinner tonight, and I don't want you to say a word when the ice cream is brought on." The small boy promised. He really was a good little boy, and he intended to mind. But when the cream was brought on the old feeling of rapture was so strong that he forgot entirely and cried out as usual. Then he remembered and stopped short, looking very repentant. He had not intended to call out, and his

mother was mortified. He changed his "We have ice cream almost every night," he remarked carelessly. - New York Times.

An English paper tells of a clergyman who had two curates, with the older of whom he was at swords' points. On being appointed to another living curate, whom he liked, and when he ame to preach his farewell sermon he chose as his text, "Abide ye here with | the ass, and I and the lad will go you-der and worship."

A JERICHO FAILURE.

THE ATTEMPT TO FORM A COMPANY OF HOME GUARDS.

Pap Perkins, the Postmaster, Tells How Bill Lapham Sprung His Scheme on the Meeting and How Lish Billings Cave It a Black Eye.

[Copyright, 1900, by C. B. Lewis.] was gittin the mail ready to put into the Tarrytown bag when Bill Lapham comes in. Bill runs a goose farm just out of Jericho and has bin gittin up in the world like a basswood tree. I've known fur the last year that he wanted to do sunthin smart to git hisself talked about, and when I seen him come in with his chin in the air I s'pected he'd hit it.

"Look here, pap," he whispers, though we was all alone, "I've struck the big-gest, broadest, tallest, heftiest idea ever thought out by mortal man, and I'm hevin hard work to catch my breath. I'll be hanged if my head don't swim and my knees wabble over it." "Is it how to grow geese feathers on hens?" says I, knowin he'd bin experimentin in that direction.

"I'd tell you, pap, quicker'n any othman in the United States, but I



PEARD OF." want to keep it to hit the crowd with tonight. I want the biggest, bustinest crowd to gather here tonight that the town of Jericho has ever seen. Give every man notice as he drops in today, and along about 7 o'clock I'll hev the ire bells rung and the horns tooted. Tell 'em it's a big thing, pap; tell 'em it's sunthin that's bound to jump this town over a ten rail fence and make city lots wuth a thousand dollars

There was a good deal of excitement around town that afternoon, and when night came the crowd at the postoffice was as big as the time when war was declared ag'in Spain. Most of 'em thought Bill Lapham was goin to de- breakfast and carry each other home." clar war ag'in Mexico or Canada, and everybody was lookin pale when Deacon Spooner called the meetin to order and said:

"Sons of freedom, we bev gathered here tonight to hear some remarks from our esteemed feller townsman. William Lapham, and we kin take it that them remarks will go beyand geese and goslin's. Make your p'int,

"My p'int is this," says Bill as he draws a long breath and steps out to git room. "We ar' now in the midst of the turmoil of a political campaign. Somebody is goin to be elected. I ain't sayin who it'll be, but the golden opportunity fur which Jericho has sighed is at hand. When the newly elected official takes the oath of of-

fice, he will be escorted to and fro."
"That's k'rect," says Deacon Spooner as Bill pauses fur breath. "The speaker ain't through yit, but he's made a p'int already. When he refers to the urmoil of campaign, it's not only high flown language, but a strong p'int. Go uhend. Bill."

"That escort will not only do the president proud," continued Bill, "but every man in it will be mentioned by all the papers in the United States. They'll speak of his wife and children and town and home, and he'll be a big man fur the rest of his life. He kin be elected sheriff without opposition, and If any one runs ag'in him fur the legislature they'll be snowed under. What I'm here tonight fur is to ask the questions: Why not organize the Jericho Guards? And why shouldn't the Jericho Guards be that escort?"

There was yellin and whoopin fur the next five minits, but when the deacon could make himself beard be said: "It's a p'int, gentlemen-six or seven p'ints. I've read all the speeches ever delivered by Henry Clay or Daniel Webster, and both of 'em put together never made the p'ints our Bill Lapham has. Bein I hev the floor, I'll say I favor the idea. Yes, sir, I'm with it heart and soul. I want my name to go down fust fur the Jericho Guards. and I'm even willin to sacrifice myself and be captain of the company. S'posin we hear from Abner Jones on the sub-

"I s'pose it's known in this town that my great-grandfather was killed at the battle of Monmouth," says Abner as he gets off the counter, "though I aln't braggin about it. I'll jest say that I'm willin to die fur my country any time I'm called upon, and if I'm elected captain of the Jericho Guards I'll promise that no invader shall set foot on these shores and live for five min

"Thar's a p'int in that," says the deacon as he looks a bit put out. "When a man's willin to die fur his country, that's a p'int in his favor, but of course we want to hear from other patriots. How is it with you. Moses Plumber?" "Does any man here doubt that I'm willin to die fur America?" asks Moses

as he draws himself up. "My great-

but the blood of them seven uncles of

mine that fell durin the civil war flows

in my veins, and my watchword is

grandfather didn't die at Mon

"Liberty or death!" As captain of the Jericho Guards you'll find me at the front, and if I don't kill at least seven invaders a week you kin bounce me

ers is a p'int, Moses," says the deacon, "and I'm proud that we both live in the same town. Bill Lapham seems to be oneasy, and I'll ask him if he has anything more to say."

"In the fust place," says Bill, "I'd like to know if everybody is in favor of organizin the Jericho Guards." Everybody swung his hat and yelled

out that he was. "In the second place, I'd like to know if everybody wants to be captain." Everybody swung his hat and yelled

out that he did. "But everybody can't be," protested Bill. "I don't want nobody to charge me with bein selfish or conceited, but I'm tellin you that this idea is mine and that I'm the man to boss the Jericho Guards. I believe I'm the only man in this town who wanted to enlist to fight the Spanlards."

"Bill makes a p'int, and we can't deny it," says Deacon Spooner, "but when I offered to lead them guards to victory or death I felt that I was the man to do it. I don't want to crowd Bill Lapham out of place, but"-

"Nelther do we!" yell 40 men. "But he must see"-

"Of course he must!" Then thar was yellin and shoutin and great uproar, and Bill Lapham said it was a doggoned crowd, and be could lick any two of 'em rolled together. Deacon Spooner hammered on the stovepipe with his cane till he could be heard, and then he said:

"It appears as if we all want to lead the Jericho Guards and die fur our country, and it further appears as if this meetin was gittin mad about sunthin. I notice Lish Billings over by the 'hases bar'ls. Lish, what d'you think about things? D'you want to be 'Noap," replies Lish in his keerless

"Ain't you willin to die fur your

"Not by a jugful, but if I was ther wouldn't be any Jericho Guards to die with. You've all bin wastin your breath."

"How's that?" "Thar's jest 96 men in this town." continues Lish, "and when the war was goin on and thar was talk that it might come to a draft the hull crowd of us went to the doctors to be examined. We had busts and ruptures and short legs and sprung knees. We had consumption and rheumatism and heart trouble. We was deaf and nigh sighted and toothless. Thar wasn't one blessed critter in the hull 96 who was fit to jump over a tow string or chaw peanuts, and I kinder reckon we'd better git sunthin soft to eat for

MULES, RATS AND MEN. Miners Show Wisdom In Paying Heed to Certain Phenomena

"Well, that isn't superstition; it's reality," and the coal mine inspector didn't seem a bit pleased with the suggestion that superstition might sometimes be responsible for the actions of miners.

"Coal miners," he went on to say, "are not superstitious. Hear noises? Of course they do, but do people sup-pose those noises are imaginary? It beats all how little is known generally about coal mining.

"Folks get it into their heads," the spector continued, "that a man who will quit work in a certain part of a mine because he sees the rats deserting that section is superstitious when, as a matter of fact, he simply displays sound judgment. Very soon after the rats quit sounds will be heard, and later on a slide follows. What would have happened to the man had be credited his fears to superstition by disregarding the exodus of the rata

and the subsequent noises? "Rats are the first of a mine's inhabitants to realize danger, and then comes the mule. Man is the last. So it is only natural that he should take as positive indications of trouble the actions of the others, and he should not be regarded as a superstitious

creature on that account. because the rats left, but because the mule realizes the danger. Left to themselves rats or mules would never be caught in slides in mines, but it is different with men, who will not follow the lead of the other two."-Den-

A Cruel Joke.

A Yale Summit girl recently played a cruel joke on her mother, and this is how it happened: She accidentally found a love letter that her father had written to her mother in the balycon days of their courtship. She read the letter to her mother, substituting her own name and that of her lover. The mother raved with anger and stamped her foot in disgust, forbidding daughter to have anything to do with n man who would write such nonsensical stuff to a girl. The girl then gave the letter to her mother to read, and the house became so suddenly quiet that she could bear the cut winking to the back yard.-Saltsbury Press.

"Hello, Mike, do you flud much to do

"Yis. I'm jest after cuttle down a trae, and tomorrow I'll have to cut it up."--Albany Journal.

False friendship decays, is like the true frieadship gives new life and ani-mation to the object it supports.

Never say die. Expire sounds much better.-Chicago News.

A NIGHT OF TORTURE

IT BROUGHT A FORTUNE TO ITS IN-NOCENT VICTIM.

Twice Strang Up by Lynchess,

ford, 26 miles from Lafayette, Ind. In 1850 a stranger arrived at the hotel and gave his name as Dr. Rowe. He told King that he had no money and asked to be trusted for his board till he could get practice in the place, promising to pay him as promptly as possible. King consented to the arrangement, and Rowe soon became a favorite with the people on account of his companiongence. The doctor, however, fell deeper and deeper in debt. He had been at the hotel for nearly a year when King reminded him one morning that he had not paid anything on his board bill for three months. The conversation, it afterward appeared, was over-

heard by some one in the hotel, the nothing was thought of it at the time. A week after the conversation Rowe was called out late at night to see a patient and failed to return. Days used without any word from him, and his disappearance soon was connected with the conversation that had passed between him and the landlord about the unpaid board. One night three months later a party of disguised mea entered the hotel and, overpowering King, took him to a woodland adjoin-

ing the town. He recognized the voices of several of his captors and especially of the leader, who told him that he was susmaintained his innocence, and the leader of the mob ordered his companions "to string him up." A rope was placed around his neck, a dozen men pulled down a stout limb, over thrown, and when the limb sed it carried King off his feet and left him hanging by the neck. He was nearly unconscious when let down

was nearly unconscious when and again ordered to confess. After much delay he was re sufficiently to understand what said to him, and he again refused up and a second time let down, but life was nearly extinct, and he was

He purposely lengthened the confesthat he and two men, named Rogers and Haggard, had polsoned some whisky and induced Rowe to drink it, and was nearly daylight when the confes-sion was made, and the lynchers de-termined to take King to jall in Lafa-

yette and then arrest Rogers and Hag-Hefore the jall was reached day had-dawned, and King recognized his capand Tippecance counties, nearly all of whom were known to him. Confident of his guilt, the men made no attempt to concent their indentity. So great was the excitement and so intense the feeling against King that he waived examination and went to jall, hoping: that something would turn up to es-

From the jail at Lafayette King addressed letters to editors of papers in-Cincinnati. Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville and other cities, setting out the circumstances of his confinement and asking them to keep his letter in the papers in hopes that it might fall un-der Rowe's notice. The appeal was a pathetic one and was copied into many

papers throughout the northwest.
Two weeks after its first appearance Dr. Rowe rode into Oxford and, attended by a number of citizens, proceeded to Lafayette, where his appearance caused the immediate release of the accused landlord. In explanation "After rats desert an entry it is next of his disappearance Rowe said he had to impossible to get a mule into it, not left his home in the east on account of domestic troubles; that he had learned that his wife was on her way to Oxford and be had determined to leave the place secretly in order to prevent her from learning where he had gone. He had gone to a little town in south-ern lilinois, and it was there that helearned that the man who had befriended him was suspected of his mur-der and was in juil in Lafayette.

As soon as King was released be brought suit against 32 members of the Horse Thief Detective company for \$5,000 each and also against the company as a corporation. Thomas A. Hendricks, afterward vice president. was his counsel, but the case was not flowed to come to trial, the lynche rompromising by paying King \$25,000. With this money be purchased a farm and other property near lafayette, where he lived till his death, at the age of 78 years.-ludianapolis Correspo

A Notural Inquiry. "Papa," said Tommy Trendway.
"Now, Tommy," replied Mr. Tread-way. "I shall answer only one more estion today. So be careful what "Yes, papa."

Well, go ou." Why don't they bury the Y'-Bousehold Words.