## THE LEBANON EXPRESS

He who thinks to please the world is dullest of his kind; for let him face which way he will, one-half is yet behind.

AN ANTE-WAR STORY
$\qquad$ A little while ago a colored man fron A adjoining county came over into thi
ounty, his former home, and met many Id friends. To one he related a re
markable episode of the daya "befo' the wah."
He says he was as tough a mulatto as the country ever produced, and his young
master resolved to "send him down the tiver," as the slave owners used to ex him to have the horses ready, and they would depart early the next morning for
Knoxville. The young master had reeived information that a certain slave
buyer from the cotton flelds would visit the city me
negro men."
The early dawn found the young peeding away over the smooth roa way, "Rich," for that wad gone a little byhich the "likely boy" was known,
nquired of his master if he was going to Knoxville to put into execution a threa him to a cotton planter. The master old him it was his mission. Rich be nent and shed tears. Ho recalled the he pathetic in general. The young Night caume on, as it always did
when travelers by the "Old Wilderness load" got well into the mountains. A jug of fine old Bourbon steadied thei Next morning they were up with th ark, and all day they talked about th endiess separation soon tolollow, pausing
occasionally toadmire the rugged scenery nd take a drink. The rabbit hunts by
day, the coon hunts by night, the romps, the fights they had the floggings the ved over again. Another night and another day and
their journey had ended. But the raid
on the big jur bad not. They "hit it on the big jug had not, They "hit it
purty lively" that "last night on earth together forever and evermore"" They night. At least the young master was
full of old liquor and the slave was full scheme. pretense. Ho had the city. A shave, clean clothes, cigar, a cane, and many extras were
dided. Finally he sought the slave buyer and introduced himself as Mr. -
$\qquad$ did young nigger" of which he had writThe boy was desoribed in glowing terms ander said he would give, provided the description was accurate. So they pro-
veeded to the tavern and into a little back room, where the young master wae he bed where Rich had taken the precaution to tumberam days growth, dusty
His beard of several
and soiled attire, unkempt hair, and eneral appearance was any thing bu
attractive.
"Fifteen hundred" gruffly remarked the old dealer as he glanced at the pitit-
ful-looking object. "Fifteen hundred ful-looking object. "Fitteen hundred
dellars for that thing! I wouldn't give and he walked out on the street. It, is About noon the young master awoke, not compelled to borrow a shoo horn to
wat on his hat, and there was a mighty
put of considerable red in his eose and a feel-
ing of a sort of goneness in general
Rich told him that be had been out to see the buyer, and
the old fellow wanted to know the price take was the question, and to be in a
hurry, as he, the buyer, had made about all the purchases he wanted and was
ready to leave town. The young master
called for paper and envelope and wrote " Dears: Sir: You have seen the boy,
My lowest price is $\$ 1,200$. Ho is worth very cont of it." The note was duly
onveyed and was soon returned with an
nswer on the belk The following day the well-rested
horses, the happy mulatto and a disapeen wending theiri solitary wayve though
he woods" toward Kentueky.-1tich Then He Presum She-Have you ever heard, Mr. Slow-
pace, that it is better to return a kiss for He (failing to catch her meaning)-
Why, yes; but I don't quite underShe (coyly)-Don't you remember that
I slapped your face yesterday?-Law-

