

SAMBO'S PECULIARITIES.

His Love for Chickens, Possum, Per... Simmons, and Watermelon.

The love of the plantation hand for fried chicken has passed into history.

It is no longer a dim tradition, but a well proven fact.

It seems a little bit singular that any one race should have an abnormal appetite for any one thing.

If there are no chickens which he can take handily, he will spend his last cent in the purchase of one.

To raise chickens anywhere near a colony of negroes it is an impossibility.

As one old sinner told me: "Dar's no use denyin' hit, of Ize gwine home from de 'nyval' an' I hears a chicken whicker like an' dar's nobody 'roun' Ize gwine climb dat fence suah."

How the negro does love a 'possum! That sly beast who loves the night rather than day, because its deeds are evil, is very dear to the African heart.

As an old colored friend of mine—an ex-member of the Legislature—says: "Take er nice fat 'possum, parbille him, roas' him, sarb him up with sweet taters an' graby and gentlemen, hit am good!"

What he thinks of 'possum should be embalmed in verse, so here goes: DE OLE 'SIMMON TREE.

I see jess as happy as I ebbber spects to be, Sing along, my 'Liza Jane!

De 'possum know de paff troo de tall broom-sage swamp, Sing along, my 'Liza Jane!

An' he know whar de 'simmon tree stan' on de aige, Sing along, my 'Liza Jane!

An' he scrooches on de 'lim', choek full to de brim, De 'simmon juice spatter to his knee;

When I puts dat 'possum in de ashes fer de roas', Sing along, my 'Liza Jane!

I feels like a gittin' in along side him mos'; Sing along, my 'Liza Jane!

Fer he looks so neat, an' he smell so very sweet, Dar's jess nuff fer two—him an' me— As I lays in de sun, wid de 'possum all done, I blesses de ole 'simmon tree!

HE LOVES THE HALLS OF JUSTICE. All scenes of law have a great fascination for the negro.

The court-room even of a Justice of the Peace has a sort of sticking-plaster power over him.

He fills the seat with his dirty, greasy anatomy, sits open-mouthed to the lawyers.

He constitutes himself a part of the paraphernalia of justice, and when the prisoner is sentenced, he follows him to the door of the jail as a guard of honor.

THE WATER MILLION. Watermelon season opens up a long vista of delight unto the negro.

Sugar cane is another favorite in the domestic economy of the negro.

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to its awesome wonders by carrying water to the gyasticuts. If he can't do this he will hang around all day, listening to the music, the oratory of the side-show, the subdued roar of the wanz-doodle, and the braying of the educated jackass.

It is singular, but true, that the negro always has money for an excursion. No matter how dry and rusty the fryin'pan may be he always has money for "a ride on de keers."

HE STANDS ON HIS DIGNITY. He will take no "sass" from his employer, nor is he as a general thing willing to do anything not mentioned in the general agreement.

Should you speak sharply to him for any cause, the chances are that he will leave you at once, regardless of the fact that he may not have a penny in his pocket.

The great dread of the negro is to be "conjured." He believes that the various aches and pains with which he may at times be afflicted are the results of conjuring him by some enemy.

One day he came to me and requested permission to leave the office for the afternoon, in order to procure some medicine from an old Voodoo woman.

Of course I granted his request, and later he returned with a bottle of filthy looking and smelling black liquid, which he jubilantly assured me would effect a perfect cure.

THE HONEST, VERY HONEST MERCHANT. A tall young man of twenty years landed at the Union Depot with a bundle under his arm.

Edmund Yates, in the London World, speaking of Anthony Trollope's fashion of showing violent passion when contradicted, says: "This infirmity of temper rendered him an easy prey to his adversaries in argument, and was invariably taken advantage of by the man whom he hated with all his great capacity for hatred, Sir Rowland Hill."

FRAIL WOMEN. Happening to be in Queenstone, Ireland, one evening, many years ago, I was invited to attend a grand ball on the occasion of a famous international regatta.

AN ANCIENT FORT IN CANADA, NEAR ST. CLAIR RIVER. Mr. C. A. Hirschfelder, of Toronto, has been making an examination of an old fort which is situated in the County of Lambton, on lot No. 25, in the 11th concession of the Township of Moore.

Two men more opposite in every respect could be found. They had one quality in common—determination; but to carry it out they worked in very different ways.

TO KEEP HEALTHY. Disraeli Ate Sparingly When Alone, But Made Public Dinners Suffer. "How do you manage to keep healthy?" Disraeli was asked by a dyspeptic friend.

FIGHTING A SKUNK. I was once on a visit to a sheep farming brother, far away on the Southern frontier of Buenos Ayres, and among the dogs I found there was one most interesting creature.

A CHINESE PHYSICIAN. How a Mongolian Works Upon the Caucasian Credulity. A celebrity among the Chinese of San Francisco is their great doctor, Li Po Tai.

FUNNY FANCIES. A Jersey City man who works for \$2 a week and his board has been sued by his wife for alimony.

Two Georgia Love Letters. The following bona-fide letters were stolen from the owners by a Puck in our employ.

TOPNOODY. When Mr. Topnoody had finished supper Thursday evening, he stretched his legs under the table, locked his fingers back of his head, and remarked to his wife:

ITEMS OF INTEREST. Jefferson has so far recovered the use of his voice as to appear at the Grand Opera House, Cincinnati.

THE GREAT AMERICAN BIRD. To a Northern man's eye there is nothing more interesting than "driving turkeys to market" in Kentucky.

At New York the demurrer was sustained in the suit of William J. Hutchinson against the President of the New York Stock Exchange and others.

El Mahdi belongs to the religious brotherhood of the Khadiree in Tripoli, and this fraternity is associated with the fanatics of Kairwan.

The darkest night that ever fell upon the earth never hid the light, never put out the stars.

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