The Independent

.....ISSUED.....

Saturday Mornings.

PUBLISHERS.

J. W. KELLY, L. H. WELLS.

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HOW SHE GAVE THE CENSUS.

When the census-taker rapped at the door of a certain Detroit cottage on Crawford street, the other day, and wondered if the woman would set the dog on him or douse him with the dish water, a great disappointment awaited him. She opened the door softly, snuffed the air to see if it smelled of lightning rods and then threw it open to him to enter.

Madam, I am making a canvas of the city, he began.

Ah! Sit down, she replied, and as he began opening his book she continued: There are five of us in the family, and paid $100 down on this house. My husband's name is Peter, he is forty-two yeas old and he came from a mean family. His father was alays having lawsuits about dogs and his mother was the greatest gossip in Elmira. Got that down?

He granted assent, and she continued:

My name is Alvina Sarah, and I was born——

I do not care where you were born, Madam, he interrupted.

Well I care she exclaimed, it makes a difference whether I was barn in Affrica or Boston, and I want it put down. And as I was saying I was born in Boston in 1838. Put down that I came from a good family.

Madam, you don't understand —you—

Don't I understand that I came of a good family? I'd like to know of a family that carried their noses higher than the Rogerses? Put down my father as Mexican soldier.

You have three children. said the man.

I haven't any such a thing, sir! Put down that my mother was killed by the explosion of a quarry. Her father and mother were——

How many children have you, madam?

Have you got mother down, sir?

No, Madam. You see I am taking the census of the city, and—

I had the typhoid fever at the age of fifteen, and for weeks I hung on the edge of the grave. I bore up as well as I was able and—

Five in the family—how many children, he suddenly inquired.

Put it down that I bore up, she commanded; and that one night when the watches were asleep I crept out of bed and took a drink of—

This is foreign to the subject. How old are your children?

Haven't you put down how I hung on the edge of the grave?

No.

Are you going to?

No, Madam. You see, I am simply taking the census of Detroit. I desire to ascertain—

You can't ascertain anything here.

He passed convinced of the fact.

I'm Afraid.

George, let's go down to old Reed's a little while, said Dan Weite to a companion, one evening, just after the lamps were lit and the day's work was done.

I've got to study, replied George.

Let the studying do itself and come on, said Dan.

I can't, I must get that lesson.

Well, get up i the morning and get it. Professor Jones says morning is the right time to study anyway, and he ought to know.

I am afraid, said George.

A roar of laughter was the only reply that greeted this frank confession, joined in by all the boys who stood around.

What are you afraid of? inquired Dan, as soon as he could command his tongue.

George hesitated.

Of his morals, sneered one.

And his manners, added another.

And his mammy, supplemented a third.

Let him speak for himself, suggested Dan. What are you afraid of, George?

Why—why, if we go there we might stay late; then I might oversleep myself and not get up early in the mornig.

RECIPES.

Corn pudding—Three dozen ears of corn scraped from the cob, one and one-half pint of milk; three eggs; two table spoonfuls of sugar; one teacup of flour; two ounces of butter; a little salt; then bake one hour and a half.

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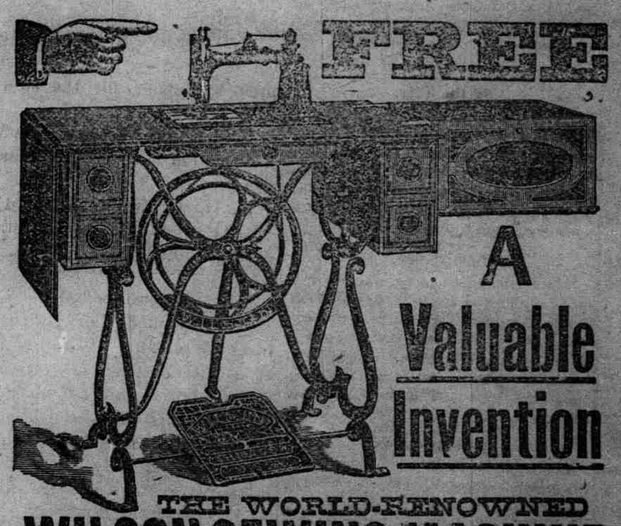

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