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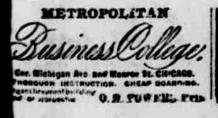
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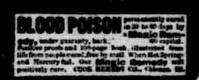
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J. MAGER, Proprietor:





HE STRIKES A TACK AND COMES DOWN STAIRS WITH A CRASH.

It In Easy Enough to Put Down a Stair Carpet if You Only Know How, and How-

[Copyright, 1801, by Charles B. Lewis,]
"What's this?" saked Mr. Bowser as he
entered the sitting room after the evening
meal and found a bundle in his favorite

meal and found a bundle in his favorite chair.

"That? Oh, that's my crash," replied Mrs. Bowser as she removed it.

"More towels for the kitchen, eh? How many thousand roller towels does that girl get away with in the course of the year?"

"It's crash for the stairs. The carpet is getting a bit worn in the middle, and I want to save it. The carpet man said he'd come up and put it down this evening, but he was probably too busy."

"In other words, he lied!" growled Mr. Bowser. "I never knew a carpet man yet who wouldn't lie rather than tell the truth. What was your object in paying him \$6 or

What was your object in paying him \$6 or \$8 to put that thing down?" "Six or \$81 Why, he will only charge 50

"Well, have we any 50 cent pieces to throw away? Mrs. Bowser, let me call your attention to the fact that this country has been on the verge of bankruptcy for the last six months."

"Well, we can save 50 cents in crash and wear out \$10 worth of carpet," she answered as she noticed that he was smoking his usual brand of cigars-two for 25 "We will save the 50 cents and wear out

we will save the a cents and wear out nothing. I shall put down the crash my-self. I was just wishing there was some little job around the house I could do." "Do you think—think you could make a good job of it?" she hesitatingly asked. "And why not, Mrs. Bowser?

"Well, you know you get out of patience if things don't go just right, and it always ends in your blaming me."

"Never got out of patience in all my life. Never blamed you in all my born days. I'll have that crash down inside of 15 minutes, and it will be as neat a job as you ever saw done. All I ask of you is to remain right here and not do any bossing. Mr. Bowser got hammer and tacks, un-

folded the crash on the stairs and removed his cost and vest. He had just begun work stnirs and queried: "Do you expect to get that down straight

without a measure or guide to go by?"
"Perhaps you have written a book entitled "What I Know About Crash," replied Mr. Bowser as he hammered away. "You won't get it straight without a

Mr. Bowser whistled and bummed to show his indifference, and he was looking at the head of a tack with one eye and had



the other on Mrs. Bowser when the ham-mer struck his thumb, and he uttered a and then' yell which made the cook in the kitchen drop the teakettie. He also sprang up and kicked the top stair three times as hard as

he could swing his leg.
"I knew how it would be. The carpet man would have put that down" man would have put that down ——
"The carpet man be hanged! Didn't I
tell you to go away? You are hanging
around here expecting to see me knock my nose off, but you'll be disappointed. You either get into the sitting room or I give up this job! When I can't manage to tack a piece of blamed old crash over a blamed old stair carpet, I'll go off and bury my-

"Well, please get it straight, because every bit of it will show from the front door." "Straight! Am I a squint eyed China-man or a purblind Eskimo? If you start it straight, it's bound to come out straight. There may be a bald spot on top of my head, Mrs. Bowser, but there is nothing baidheaded about my eyesight."

She went away, and he had reached the

middle stair, when she returned to take another look. One giance was enough. "Mr. Bowser, you've got that down crooked. You've pulled it way over to the left as you came down. I knew you'd do it, without a guide."

You back again? Where is it pulled to the left?" "It begins on the second stair from the

"Never! If that isn't a bee line, I'll eat dough for a week." "But measure it with the handle of your

bammer. It's an inch more to the left than to the right." Mr. Bowser measured. It was at least an inch and a balf. He couldn't deny it, for Mrs. Bowser was at the bottom of the stairs ready to come up. He did the best thing he could do under the circumstances, or he

started out to do it. "It's straighter than the straightest line "but if you are going to stand there and boss and find fault and jaw around, why"—

He had his back to her. He seized the crash with both hands and ripped it off the crash with both hands and ripped it off the

step above him and was moving on the next when his left knee struck a tack waiting for a job. The sudden pain and surprise over-balanced him, and Mrs. Bowser suddenly saw something coming down stairs. It was Mr. Bowser. He never missed a step. It couldn't have been done more nicely by a first class actor in a first class play. There were eight steps, and Mr. Bowser uttered eight yells. As he brought up at the bottom one of his feet struck the hall tree and

tom one of his feet struck the hall tree and upset it, and the other sent a chair crashing against the front door.

"Are you hurt, dear?" anxiously asked Mrs. Bowser as the dust settled down,
Mr. Bowser slowly got up and limped into the aitting room and satdown. For 10 minutes he sat and glared at Mrs. Bowser in a cold and stony way and then finally said:

"We will have breakfast half an hour earlier than usual, as you will want to catch that 9 o'clock train for your mother's. You can have the custody of the child, and our

THE FALL OF BOWSER respective lawyers will settle the question of allmony. Good night, designing woman! Thank heaven, but my eyes are open at

HE SAW A CYCLONE.

A Victim Tells the Story of How It Came and West.

When it was understood that the old man with his head bandaged up and his face crisscrossed with strips of court plaster had been a victim of the cyclone, we gath-ered around to hear his story. "The first thing I heard," e began as he looked around, "was a terr...e moanin and

roanin."
"That was the coming of the cyclone,"

aid one of the passengers.
"Wall, no. I afterward found out that

it was my old woman. She'd fell off'n a chair and hurt her back. The next thing I took notice of was a rushin sound, as if a thousand trains of cars was humpin

"That was the forerunner," said a second

was mistaken. It was only some niggers allin off the roof of a shed. Then I heard



"THAT CYCLONE STRUCK THE HOUSE." ech a shrick as I hope never to hear agin if

made my flesh crawl." "That was the exultant voice of the de-mon of the storm," said a young woman with eyeglasses and a poetical look.
"No, ma'am, it wasn't," replied the old

"I thought it was, but it turned out to be my darter Sal. She was sloshin around barefut and trod on a fishbone. I was tellin her that I was glad on it when that cyclone struck the house with a roar like that of a millyon wounded lions."
"And it was picked up like an autumn

leaf," said a fat man with side whiskers as be crowded closer. "No, sir. No, the house is right there,

"But it was unroofed?" "No, the roof is all right. When that cyclone tackled my house, she bit off more'n she could chaw and had to let go. She jest dodged to the left with a roar like a billyon tigers all roarin at once and struck into my

"And devastated everything in its path of course," remarked a tall young man with a Roman nose and two watch chains. "Wall, no. She devasted one peach tree which I was goin to cut down that same day, but the rest of 'em refused to be dev-

Then with a scream like thousands of schoolma'ams screamin in chorus "See here, old man," interrupted the con-ductor, "did that cyclone sweep away any

of your property?"

"Not a doggoned sweep!"
"And how did you get hurt?" "My blamed old mewl run away with me pext day and pitched me inter the bushes."

"Then what are you talking about?"
"Bout the cyclone of course. These folks never seen one, and though I hain't much of a hand to talk I'm willin to tell 'em all I kin 'bout the screams of furymad shricks of despair-appallin devasta-tion-wreck and desolashun and two of my niggers losin their hats and one of my corneribs bein unroofed. Arter breakin down that peach tree she got up and howled like millyons of wolves a-howlin in chorus,

But that was the end. The crowd melted away like soft snow and left the old man alone, and after borrowing a chew of tobacco of the man on the seat in front he leaned over against the window and fell

THE ARIZONA KICKER.

A Gentleman Whose Drink Was Cold Pizen Is Promptly Laid Away. A GRATEFUL MAN .- On Saturday of last eek we had a call from a stranger named Wyman of Iowa, whose object in visiting this locality was to get news of his son John, who had not been heard of for some description of his long lost son we remembered him-a lop shouldered chap, lame in the left leg, cross eyed and his hat on his ear; would have been a red headed man but for the grass and burs in his hair, had two guns and a voice like a lost mule. Many of our citizens will remember that



"MY DRINK IS COLD PIZEN." on the 20th day of last June a critter came galloping into this town on a cayuse which was knee sprung and limped in all four legs. Upon reaching the postoffice the critter rolled off his beast and stood on the

legs. Upon reaching the postomee the critter rolled off his beast and stood on the steps and waved his arms and shouted:

"I am a livin thunderbolt from Mount San Francisco, which is 40,000 feet high and chuck full of grizzly b'ars, rattlesnakes and airthquakes. My food is the cactus and my drink cold pizen. When I roll my eyes, the hull territory of Arizona lights up as with a millyon bonfires. When I sneeze, the big mountain shakes and pours out lava. Whar' is the man who won't fall dead when I look at him? Whoop! What critter will refuse to tell me of a place whar' I kin git buzzsaws, bowie knives, b'ars' claws and mewls' hoofs for luncheon?"

The city marshal would have taken the stranger in and cared for him, but he resisted arrest and pulled his guns. The resisted arrest and pulled his guns.

you enter the town graveyard, and when we took the father up there to see it we noticed that some patent medicine man had erected a headboard for the sake of advertising his cure all. When we informed the father of the way his son John met his fate, he promptly acquitted the marshal of all blame. He further explained that John had set out for the far west to become a bad man, and that what he lacked in sand bad man, and that what he lacked in sand he made up in whooping and cracking his heels together. Mr. Wyman not only took a sensible view of the matter at every turn, but his words expressed his relief and grat-itude that his son was not hung instead of being shot. Indeed he was so pleased with our people and their way of doing business that before going home he purchased two vacant lots on Anache avenue and will revacant lots on Apache avenue and will re-turn here in the spring to become a perma-nent resident. As the head of the local government, as well as the editor and proprictor of a great family newspaper, we take great pleasure in assisting the rela-tives of a late deceased to secure all possi-ble particulars of his taking off, and in the future as in the past shall hold ourselves in readiness to do whatever can be done in any and every case. Living relatives who may wish to consult us after 11 o'clock at night will please ring the upper bell and announce their names before the door is opened. We have find to adopt this pre-

caution to guard against would be assas

ANOTHER CASE IN POINT .- On two or

three different occasions THE KICKER has felt called upon to warn tourists from the east that the people of this town had their idioms and stuck to them like a ton of porous plasters. When we were in Chicago a year ago, a man took our 850 over-coat and left a 85 one in exchange. We recognized it as one of the idioms of the town and raised no row. When we were in St. Louis last summer, some one took \$5 out of our hind pocket. Idiom again, and we telegraphed home for more. The idioms of our people are perhaps manifested in a game of poker more than in anything else. The game is played here in all its original luxuriousness—that is, each player is entitled to lay two guns on the table before the cards are dealt. The guns may be loaded or not, but empty guns are not much of a bluff out this way. In the east three aces beat three kings in a game of poker. In this community they some times do and sometimes don't-acc to how you have sized up the other feller. In the east they never have over four aces in a pack of cards. Here we often find six. We fully explained all these things to a stranger named Parker, who arrived here the other day to see if the climate would help his astuma, but he went right over to the Wild Horse saloon, sat down to a game of poker with old Tom Scott and tried to rake in the pot under the belief that threes beat two pairs. That would be the case in some localities, but it is not here. Mr. Scott had to shoot Mr. Parker in the shoulder before he would be convinced, and we think he left town feeling that he had somehow been injured in both mind and body. If Mr. Parker had had two six shooters on the table, then his threes would have knocked two pairs silly, but he didn't have them. We offered to lend him one as he left the office, but he refused the loan, and thereby lost 850 in cash and got in the way of a builet. One is no longer obliged to drink with a stranger or fight in this town, but we have lots of other little cusand hit the head when trodden on.

An American Fable

A traveler over a certain highway was topped by a robber, who made the usual demand, accompanied by the usual horse pistol. The traveler shelled out every dollar he had with great promptness, but after he had done so he raised his voice in lamentation and cried:

"Alas! it needed only this to undo me, and I am a ruined man!"

"You have given me only 850," replied the robber as he counted the cash. "Let me explain the case. I am in trou-ble with my neighbor about a line fence. I was on my way to see a lawyer and retain him to bring suit. Having been robbed of my money, I shall not now be able to secure

"My dear man," said the robber as he spat over his right shoulder for luck, "you should congratulate yourself on this fortu-nate meeting. Had you begun suit, your neighbor would have been compelled to defend it. While the courts might have set-tled the question in time, both farms would long before have passed into the hands of the lawyers. It is true that you lost \$50 in cash, but at the same time you save a farm and the troubles and anxieties of a law-Again, the neighbor you are at war with happens to be my uncle, and having saved his farm from the lawyers he will now be quite willing to move that line fence 2% inches and thus settle the point

in dispute forever. Taken all around"—
"Say no more!" joyfully interrupted the traveler as he extended his hand. how it is and appreciate your kindness and self sacrifice. You are not only welcome to my money, but shall have half of my buckwheat crop."

Whenever you would go to law, try to meet a robber somewhere. M. QUAD.

Cardinal Richelieu once listened to an earnest sermon by a shoemaker. The man was simple and unaffected and apparently not at all dismayed by the presence of the

"How could you preach to me with so much confidence?" Richelieu asked him in evident surprise. "Monsigneur," replied the shoemaker, "I learned my sermon by reciting it to a

field of cabbage heads in the midst of which was one red one, and this practice enabled me to preach to you."-Youth's Companion. Explained. Miss Pinkerly—I passed by a candy store yesterday, but didn't go in. Young Tutter—Why, how was that? 1

didn't suppose you ever could pass a candy store without going in.

Miss Pinkerly-Don't you remember! You were with me!-Truth

Brown-Jones is an odd stick. His wife gave him a letter to mail the other day, and what do you suppose he did with it? Smith—I can't imagine. Brown-Why, mailed it of course.-Brooklyn Life.

First Passenger-I wonder why we are making such a long stop at this station? Second Passenger (a traveler of experi-ence)—I presume it is because no one hap-pens to be trying to catch the train.—Tit-lits.

Professor Sucel Tanna-What will you pay me to undertake a 40 day fast at your museum? Manager-Well, I'll pay your board while

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What is

Castoria is Dr. Samuel Pitcher's prescription for Infants and Children. It contains neither Oplum, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It is a harmless substitute for Paregoric, Drops, Soothing Syrups, and Castor Oil. It is Pleasant. Its guarantee is thirty years' use by Millions of Mothers. Castoria destroys Worms and allays feverishness. Caztoria prevents vomiting Sour Cura, cures Diarrhoes and Wind Colic. Castoria relieves teething troubles, cures constipation and flatulency. Castoria assimilates the food, regulates the stomach and bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. Castoria is the Children's Panacea-the Mother's Friend.

Castoria.

Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children." Dr. G. C. Osgood,

lestroying their loved ones, by foreing opium,

"Castoria is the best remedy for children of which I am acquainted. I hope the day is not far distant when mothers will consider the real rest of their children, and use Castoria instead of the various quack nostrums which are

merphine, soothing syrup and other hurtful agents down their throats, thereby sending them to premature graves DR. J. F. KINCHE OF.

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