

On the the other hand, Mr. Winkle said to himself :

"If I ever do go back and mix myself up with these people, I'll deserve to be horsewhipped myself—that's all."

But, if Mr. Winkle was too successful on this occasion, he was just about successful enough on another. Being invited with his three friends, to Manor Farm in order to assist at a wedding that was to take place there on Christmas Day, he happened to meet a black-eyed young lady, who wore a pretty little pair of boots with fur around the top. The couple soon fell to a liking of each other, which kept continually increasing. At last, Winkle became so "comfoozled" with his love, as Sam put it, that he obtained an interview with the object of his devotion from the top of the stone wall, which surrounded her dwelling. After a considerable time, the couple were married in spite of a threat from the young woman's brother that he would cut Winkle's throat. But here Mr. Winkle made a false step ; he forgot to ask the permission of his father before achieving his object. Hence, when the news of his son's marriage came to the ears of the old man, he got very angry. This anger was, however, soon dispelled when he beheld with his own eyes, his little daughter-in-law. Thenceforward Mr. Winkle lived in bliss with his charming young wife.

The author of *Pickwick Papers* says that he inserted Mr. Winkle in the columns of his interesting novel for the sole purpose of affording scope to the pen of his artist. But, as you see by the brilliant qualities he possesses, and by the concern he excites, Winkle also affords scope for the imagination to work upon. In fact, in comicalness and mirth-exercising qualities, he is surpassed by Sam Weller only. Thus we see that Dickens, by looking up the concerns of an illustrator, unconsciously gave to English literature in general and to *Pickwick Papers* in particular, another charm of which it can boast through time immemorial.

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