

"'Gosh, but this is sunthin' we don't git every day!" said the farmer as he poked his hired man in the ribs.

"'But I hain't encouragin' pirates myself," answered the other in sulky tones.

Scene of Slaughter.
 "The ship we captured,' I continued, 'was the Bounding Sally of London. Her captain took us for a peaceful trader and let us come up

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"ONE full four or five years ago," said the C. O. D. man, "after he had been financially encouraged to talk," "he came along to a farm in New Jersey where the farmer and his hired men had just begun operations. I needed food and was willing to work for it, and I climbed the fence and accosted the farmer. He waited to tie up a shock of corn before answering me and then said:

"'Waal, I dunno. You don't look very hefty.'

"'But I can cut corn,' I answered.

"'I don't want to say nuthin' to hurt your feelin's, but you look to me as if

"WE SIGNALLED THAT WE WERE SHORT
MUSTARD TO MAKE SANDWICHES."

you had been a pirate. If you had, you needn't be afraid to own up. Nobody here is goin' to say anything about it. Jim, you won't never tell will you?"

"The query was addressed to a hired man, and after thinking for a moment he replied:

"No. I won't never tell, but I've

Begins His Story.
"Thus encouraged I sat down on

stump, the farmer and his hired man sat down on a log before me, and proceeded to say that at the age

on a whaling ship. After being out a year or so and taking about a dozen whales we touched at Valparaiso, as I was a very sick man I was sent to the hospital while the ship continued.

"'So you ketched whales, eh?' queried the farmer, with sudden interest.

"'Bigger'n this log?"

"Yes, far larger. As long as f
here to the fence and three times
lame around as an ox."

"By thunder! Then it must be that the whale swallowed Joner?"

"Not a doubt of it. Well, as I s—"

I was sent to the hospital, and for a month I was a very sick man. Then I began to mend, and in a month or two I was able to walk out in the hospital grounds. One day while I was sitting on the bench in the sunshine I was

costed by another convalescent. had been in hospital to be treated three different wounds. He was a soft spoken man, as smooth as oil,

At first I took him for a church deacon. After three or four days he grew confidential, and then he betrayed himself. What do you think he was?"

"'A livin' pirate, by thunder!"

"I told the farmer

"A hoss thief, mebbe," added the hired man.

"Yes, he was a pirate. He was known all along the South American coast as Bloody Dick. I suppose he had captured and burned fifty different ships and put a thousand people to death before I met him. At first,

he told me he was a pirate, I
away from him, but the longer he
ed the more I liked him. He had
pped of his all when an ex-pan-

that's why he had turned pirate wanted me to go with him, but refused. However, the next day a had refused I got a letter from that my sweetheart had married

other, my old mother was dead
that a cousin of mine had robbed
of all my real estate. This news
me reckless, and I went to the

"'By cracky, but this is gittin' estin'," said the farmer, as he hopped about on the log.

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