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An amusing scene was recently enacted in a country court-room in Maine. The justice, a big pompous official, with a voice like a tombstone, took it upon himself to examine a witness—a little withered old man, whose face was as red and wrinkled as a smoked herring.

"What is your name?" asked the justice.

"Why, squire," said the astonished witness, "you know my name as well as I know yourn."

"Never you mind what I know or what I don't know," was the caution given with magisterial severity. "I ask the question in my official capacity, and you're bound to answer it under oath."

With a contemptuous snort the witness gave his name, and the questioning proceeded.

"Where do you live?"

"Wal, I shum!" ejaculated the old man. "Why," he continued appealing to the laughing listeners, "I've lived in this town all my life, and so's he—pointing to the justice—"an b' gosh, to hear him go on you'd think—"

"Silence!" thundered the irate magistrate. "Answer my question, or I'll fine you for contempt of court."

Alarmed by the threat, the witness named his place of residence, and the examination went on.

"What is your occupation?"

"Huh?"

"What do you do for a living?"

Oh, git out, squire! Jest as if you don't know that I tend gardens in the summer season an' saw wood winters!"

"As a private citizen I do know it, but as the Court I know nothing about you," exclaimed the perspiring justice.

"Wall, squire" remarked the puzzled witness, "if you know somethin' outside of the court-room an' don't know nuthin' in it, you'd better get out an' let someboby try this case that's got hosense"

The advice may have been well meaut, but it cost the witness ten dollars.

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