

advance, and when Bill's comrades came to where the sergeant and Bill were they found them enjoying a hearty laugh over the alarm caused by a flock of "quail."—*Grand Army Review*.

## A KENTUCKY CHARACTER.

Anecdotes of an Old Brigadier Congressman.

One of the characters in the house is Gen. Wolford, of Kentucky. When he is at home he wears an old flannel shirt and pants strapped about his waist. When he came here he found he had to change his costume and put on a "biled" shirt and black clothes. At first he was averse to this, but some friends bought him a black suit. He has worn it ever since, and this is his second term. But he would not dare go home dressed as he is now, for his constituents would think he had become effeminate. Several good stories are told of his first campaign, when he took the stump against Gen. Fry. When he was first nominated by the democrats for congress Gen. Fry asked him to unite with him and make several speeches together. Wolford accepted the invitation. The first meeting was enough for Gen. Fry. Gen. Wolford commanded the 1st Kentucky cavalry in the union army, and the regiment was known as the "critter-backs." He had several of his men on the platform with him when he made his speech. He opened most brilliantly, but suddenly startled Gen. Fry by asking the assemblage if they knew what the union had done with Gen. Lee after he surrendered at Appomattox. "Why, gentlemen—will you believe it?—when he was out walking under an apple-tree near the very house where he surrendered, they grabbed him. Yes, the men who had granted him a parole seized him, and, sir, they not only did that, but they hung Gen. Lee to the very apple-tree under which he was walking! Hung him dead!" Gen. Fry at first was so surprised he could not speak, but, jumping to his feet he said, "Gen. Wolford, you know that is not so. Gen. Lee was never hung."

"But, sir," exclaimed Gen. Wolford, "I was there, and I know it is so. Wasn't it John?" and he turned to one of his "critterbacks." The man nodded his head, as did the others who sat near him. Gen. Fry sank back in his chair overcome.

"This is not all," said Gen. Wolford, turning to the crowd in front of him.

"The union men locked Jeff Davis up in Fortress Monroe, and one beautiful moonlight night when the tide was low, they took him out and tied him to a stake on the beach. The sea came in gradually, the waves swept over him, and he was drowned, and they stood and heard his cries."

This was too much for Gen. Fry. Again he protested, and said that Jeff Davis was alive still, but the "critter-backs" indorsed Gen. Wolford, and seeing that his opponent intended to keep the thing up, Gen. Fry withdrew, and Gen. Wolford was elected by a rousing majority.

Another story is told of Gen. Wolford when he was trying a case in his native town in Adair county, Kentucky. His client had been charged with poisoning someone. The chemist for the state had testified to finding arsenic in the stomach of the deceased, and then Gen. Wolford took the witness in hand.

"Did you find any flies' wings in the stomach?" asked the General.

"No, sir; for I did not look for any. I found arsenic," answered the chemist.

"Could you swear that there were no flies' wings in the stomach?" he asked.

"No, sir; because I did not look for them."

"How did you know they were not there?"

"I don't say they were not."

"That's funny. You say you found arsenic, but no fly wings. Yet you are not certain as to their not being there," said Gen. Wolford. The witness in vain tried to explain, the lawyer had twisted the witness up, and so he addressed the jury. "Gentlemen, I demand the acquittal of my client. The chemist says he found arsenic in the stomach of the deceased, but no fly wings. Yet everybody knows that when anyone swallows one or two flies they turn to arsenic in the stomach, ye. no fly wings were found, therefore I doubt if there was any arsenic there either." The man was acquitted.—*Minneapolis Tribune*.

One of our exchanges says:—"The Masonic banquet in connection with lodge work was as distinctly recognized as long ago as A.D. 1599, and in the same year it is referred to in the minutes of the lodge of Edinburgh, as an affair of common occurrence in the entry of apprentices."