

Special to THE COLONIST.

M. QUAD'S HUMOR.

The "Arizona Kicker's" Contributions—An Artist's Predicament in the New First Reader.

A Mule who Forgot Mistaken Charity—The First Newspaper in the Field.

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THE ARIZONA KICKER.

NEW DEPARTMENT.—With this issue we establish a new department entitled "Sporting News." We do it to accommodate a baseball editor from New York who struck this town in a barefoot condition and offered to work for three dollars a week and his board. We don't know how it will pan out, but if he is willing to risk it we are. On three different occasions we have endeavored to establish a sporting department, but the sporting editor has either been shot or run out of town within a few hours after the paper came out. Our people are rather queer



"OFFERED TO WORK FOR THREE DOLLARS A WEEK."

about certain things, and a journalist must know their characteristics before he can please them.

P. S.—We stop the press after having worked off 600 copies to announce that our sporting editor has concluded to seek a different climate. He was somewhat assisted in this resolution by Dan Skinner, Jim Beebe, Abe Hastings and others whom he characterized as "one horse sports who had never seen a genuine dog fight." He was a mile ahead and gaining at every jump when they dropped the pursuit. "Sporting News" will probably not appear next week.

AN UNFORTUNATE OCCURRENCE.—Friday last a stranger arrived here from Chicago with a view of opening an undertaking establishment. Unfortunately for him he went prowling about by himself and had nothing to say to any one. He came into The Kicker office about 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, and as he entered the door we thought we recognized him as Bill Wheatley, of Clinch valley, who sent us word two weeks ago that he intended to bury us in our own private graveyard. This recognition was strengthened by the fact of his reaching behind him as if for his gun. As subsequently explained, he was after his handkerchief, which in this town is always kept in a man's hat. We always get the drop if possible, and we got it on this man and bored him through the shoulder. When he came to give his name as Henry Briggs, and state his mission and prove his identity by numerous papers, no one could have felt more sympathy than we did. We agreed to pay the surgeon's bill and give him forty dollars besides, and we are now paying his board at the hotel for the week as well. Mr. Briggs has no hard feelings toward us. On the contrary, he realizes his mistake in not posting up on the rules and regulations of the town, and freely admits that he has no claim on us whatever.

HE FOUND OUT.—Jim Whitehead, alderman from the First ward, has been acting for some time to find out if his honor the mayor (who is himself) was well up in "Cushing's Manual" as president of the common council. Last Friday evening he learned all he wanted to know. He was indulging in a speech when there was no question before the house and he was politely cautioned. He refused to heed the caution and planted himself on the broad platform of American liberty. His honor stopped down and took him and his platform and threw both down stairs in a heap. The platform didn't suffer any to speak of, but the alderman from the First had his shoulder dislocated and the funny bone of his elbow cracked in two places. If there is any other member of the council who doubts the mayor's thorough familiarity with "Cushing" he is free to experiment at any meeting.

NO RIOT ACT.—His honor the mayor (who is himself) wishes us to announce the fact that his office has never been supplied with a copy of the riot act, and that in case of a mob gathering to do mischief no act can be read. It is well for our citizens to remember this matter. There will be no waiting on the part of his honor, as is usually the case, but within fifteen seconds after the mob has been commanded to disperse, he will be right down on the ground with both feet and moving right and left. We sincerely hope there may never be occasion for acting in an official capacity, but it is wise for our citizens to post up on laws and ordinances and be ready to act in accordance. His honor was not acting officially when he dispersed Jim Redfoot Saturday evening, but as editor of The Kicker and an eminent citizen of the town.

THE NEW FIRST READER.

"Ah! What have we here?"
"It is the United States now rising on a farm—scene in New Jersey. The grass sparkles with dew, the songs of the new-dawn lark gladden the heart, and the cows in the barnyard chew their ends in peace as they wait for the dairy maid to appear with her pail."

"Is that the dairy maid tripping lightly down the path toward the barn?"

"Oh, no! That is an artist from New York who has arranged to spend two

weeks on the farm to study animal life according to nature. He is going to paint pictures with seven or eight cows in it, and he will call it 'The Morning Milk Stool; or, How We Worked the Racket on the Innocent Cows.' It has been his ambition for years, but he has just got around to it."

"Why does he carry a pail and stool?"
"Oh, he's going to begin on the ground floor and work his way up. He never milked a cow, but he's always thought it would be romantic. He will carefully study the hind legs of bony as he fills the pail. If any newspaper critic gives him a go at it, he'll say he's milked a cow and ought to know which way her hind legs crook."

"He seems undecided which cow to begin on."

"He's simply studying attitude and wishing he had his sketch book at hand. There's far more grace in a cow than he ever dreamed of. There—he finally approaches a cow and takes a graceful position on the milk stool."

"But why does the cow look at him so queerly?"

"Because she's farrow and is being fattened for beef. It's about a year since any one sat down within reaching distance of her hoof."

"I can no longer see the artist for the cloud of dust. Is he still there?"

"Oh, no! He left ten minutes ago and has just brought up against the old wagon box under the shed. He has a corn cultivator down the back of his neck, and an old flannel mill jabbed into his ear and his legs are tangled up with a patent drag and a potato planter. He won't die, though. He will continue lying there until fully rotted and then make a snack for the bars and fall through."

"Will he ever be blithe and happy again?"

"Oh, yes, but not in the cow line. He will probably turn to mountain scenery and give cows the go by, and in due time he will get the porous plasters off and be able to approach a cow within half a mile without being seasick in the knees."

THE MULE WHO DISMEMBERED.—A faded old mule which looked to be fifty years old came crawling down the dusty street before a shabby old wagon, in which was seated a colored man. As he drove up to the depot platform and stopped, he inquired:

"Well, mule, I suppose you'd sell that mule for money?"

"How much, sah?" he asked as he looked up.

"What do you think he's worth?"

"Well, sah, I reckon de cash value of dat mule, cash right down on de nail, hain't fur more den de dollars an' a half, but I couldn't sell him fur dat."

"Is he blooded?"

"No sah; but he's a reekleekshun mule, an dat's what makes him so valuable."

"What's a reekleekshun mule?"

AN UNDECIDED WHICH COW TO BEGIN ON.—"Why, sah, he reekleekshun back to wah times. He was right around yere doin dat wah, an he hain't dun dismembered at all."

"What does he remember?"

"Bout dem Yankee shells, sah. De Yankee dun fired cannons at him obery chance dey got, but he alius dodged de shells. Would you like to see him perfoim, sah?"

"Would you be dun willin to put up fo' bits fur damages to de wagon? He's bound to smash things when he finds he hars a shell comin."

I gave him half a dollar and he stepped out and picked up a cobblestone and smothered the wagon. The mule was leaning against the platform and apparently sound asleep. The negro pucker up his mouth and uttered a droning, moaning sound, like the flight of a shell, and gradually brought it closer and closer until an old soldier would have been deceived. Then he heaved the stone against the platform with a great bang and cried out:

"Fo' de lawd, Erastus, but dem Yankees has dun got de range agin—look out!"

The mule had pricked up his ears at the first sound. As the imaginary shell came nearer and nearer he began to pick up his feet and exhibit great excitement, and the words of the negro were not yet out of his mouth when Erastus made a break. He went off like a cyclone, struck a post and ripped two wheels off the wagon, and after a straight run of eighty rods up the street with the wreck turned a corner and was out of sight.

"Dat's what I dun told yo, sah," said the man as he turned to me, "he's a reekleekshun mule. He's old an humbly, but he jest dismembers all about dat wah, an I couldn't sell him short o' fifty dollars, sah. I bet he'd dun started off two wheels, an I reckon you'd bettah make it a dollar, sah."

THE ELEVENTH MAN.

We stopped at a flag station to take up a new man, and as they came into the smoker all saw that they were hand-cuffed together. It was easy enough to identify the prisoner. He was a gaunt faced, long haired man of dejected demeanor, and he seemed much embarrassed at sight of so many of us.

"I reckon yo' can't run from me now,"

DR. MACMAGNATH JONES, yesterday telegraphed to Ottawa an estimate of the cost of fitting the steamer Kicker with the Dixie blast machine, and is expecting immediately to proceed with the work.

All preliminary are practically settled, and these final instructions are all that will be needed before the work is commenced.

What lacking in style, it's badges covered verdant and true heart.

And what about style. Well, just now this. That gowns are being made long enough to touch the ground. The train has been found quite incompatible with spurs. Ribbons and laces are the two favorite materials of the hour: they are

on every gown. Lace is wonderfully becoming. It casts a softening shade over angles and has a generous way of hiding embonpoint. Long cloaks are made with a picturesque looseness, and have large sleeves of a different material. Those of crepe de chine studded with jet are the most fashionable. The sleeves are of velvet as a rule. Linen dresses bear off the palm in the matter of washing gowns. Those made with sleeveless jackets and plain skirts worn over colored blouses are white linen over a yellow silk shirt are the prettiest.

Le Baron de Brémont.

MINERVA AND YUCCA.

Each Claims to Be the World's Strongest Woman.

There is a difference of opinion between Miss Josephine Wolff, who styles herself Minerva, and Miss Fanny Gorman, whose professional sobriquet is Yucca, as to which is the world's strongest woman.

In February, 1892, they will decide the momentous question at New York by participating in a match for \$500 and the world's championship.

Minerva is only twenty-four years old, but she weighs 165 pounds, and is one of her ordinary feats, it is

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