

Honest Polly.

A matron was one day teaching a little colored girl on her plantation how to spell, says the *Memphis Scimitar*. She used a pictorial primer, in which each word was accompanied by an illustration.

Polly glibly spelled "o-x, ox," and "b-o-x, box," and the teacher thought she was making "right rapid progress," perhaps even too rapid.

So she put her hand over the picture, and then asked: "Polly, what does o-x spell?"

"Ox," answered Polly, nimbly.

"How do you know that it spells ox?"

Polly was as honest as the day.

"Seed his tail!" she responded.

Turn About.

The French have a saying, "He who receives a good turn should never forget it; he who does one should never remember it." The case of a New York newsboy and a physician, told by the *New York Herald*, illustrates this wise saying:

A physician who recently moved uptown took an evening paper from a small newsboy, and dived into his pocket for the change.

"That's all right, doctor," remarked the little fellow; "I'll not take no money. Don't you remember Jimmie, that you cured last winter with the fever?"

Then the physician recognized in the tall and sturdy boy a little lad whom he had pulled through a fever, without any payment.

"But that's all right, Jimmie," he said; "and you must certainly let me pay you for the paper."

"No," said the boy, "I'll not. Where are you living up here, doctor? I want to come and see you."

He hadn't yet turned up to see the doctor, but every morning and evening he slips a paper under the door; and, to have a proper understanding in the beginning, with the first paper he scribbled a little notice: "Please, doctor, accept these papers all from Jimmie."

Tested His Strength.

Charley M— was home from college spending his summer vacation. The M—'s were people fairly well-to-do, and Charley was passing the forenoon very comfortably on the cool and shady verandah.

Down by the barnyard fence, in a neglected place, a crop of strong, healthy weeds had sprung up and flourished under the summer sun. Left unmolested in the rush of work on the farm, they were fast becoming a blot on the otherwise orderly premises, and that morning Charley's father—the "old man"—had sallied forth, and was now making a vigorous assault upon the patch.

Suddenly he left off his work and came up into the yard. Taking a broomstick which happened to be leaning against the verandah, he laid it on the grass, then turned to Charley and said:

"Get down here and see if you can pull me over that stick."

He held in his hand a small chain, in each end of which was inserted a stout stick to serve as a handle. Then the tug began, and developed into quite a spirited contest. But at last Charley succeeded in dragging the old man across the line.

"There, that'll do," he said, dropping his end of the chain. "I guess you've got strength enough to pull them weeds down there by the barn."

"I never said a word," said Charley, telling the story afterward, "but before now there weren't any weeds left standing."

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