

The Great Halloween Trial.

BY BARNEY O'REGAN.

Mackintosh's Corner was in a fever of intense excitement, such as had not been known for years, and compared to which the stir caused by the famous school meeting, the history of which I gave my readers several moons ago, was as the patter of a summer sun shower on the rose leaves to an equinoctial storm which tears to ribbons everything that is loose. The fever of excitement was almost equal to that which follows a new discovery of gold on the Klondike. Halloween had come and gone, and among the many tricks performed by the boys was one more heinous than it had hitherto been supposed the rising generation of the 'Corner' mischievous as some of them were, dared attempt, though to the outside world it was not such a terrible affair after all, not quite so bad, at least, as some of those 'delicious massacres' which are giving serious concern to the magistrates, and which are being given a name and 'fame' these days.

that of affirming." The Squire gazed open-eyed and open-mouthed, at Barnasconi during this harangue, and when he finally recovered from his astonishment, he broke forth—"Look here, Barnasconi, you're a dangerous man to be at large in the community, and I've a good notion to send you to the penitentiary, 'pon me soul I have. Any man that talks like you do about the sacred scriptures can't give any evidence in this court."

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