

punge all ingrammaticisms and payin' particular attention to the punktoocation. It was, if I may say it without egitism, a manly effort but, alars! I never delivered it, as the sekel will show you. I paced up and down the kitein speakin' my piece over so as to be entirely perfeck. My blooming young daughter SARAH ANN bothered me summut by singin', "Why do summer roses fade?"

"Because," said I, arter hearin' her sing it about fourteen times, "because it's their biz! Let 'em fade."

"BETSY," said I, pausin' in the middle of the room and lettin' my eagle eye wander from the manuscrip; "BETSY, on the night of this here serenade, I desires you to appear at the winder dressed in white, and wave a lily-white handkercher. Dy'e hear?"

"If I appear," said that remarkable female, "I shall wave a lily-white bucket of bilin' hot water, and somebody will be scalded. One bald-headed old fool will get his share."

She refer'd to her husband. No doubt about it in my mind. But for fear she might exasperate me I said nothin'.

The expected night cum. At 9 o'clock precisely there was sounds of footsteps in the yard, and the Band struck up a lively air, which when they did finish it, there was cries of "WARD! WARD!" I stept out onto the portico. A brief glance showed me that the assemblage was summet mixed. There was a great many ragged boys, and there was quite a number of grown up persons evigently under the affluence of the intoxicatin' bole. The Band was also drunk. DR. SCHWAZEY, who was holdin' up a post, seemed to be partie'ly drunk—so much so that it had got into his spectacles, which were staggerin' wildly over his nose. But I was in for it, and I commenced:

"Feller Citizens: For this unexpected honor——"

*Leader of the Band.*—Will you give us our mouey now, or wait till you get through?

To this painful and disgustin' interruption I paid no attention.

"——for this unexpected honor I thank you."

*Leader of the Band.*—But you said you'd give us seven dollars if we'd play two choons.

Again I didn't notice him, but resumed as follows:

"I say I thank you warmly. When I look at this crowd of true Americans, my heart swells——"

*Dr. Schwazey.*—So do I!

*A voice.*—We all do!

"——my heart swells——"

*A voice.*—Three cheers for the swells.

"We live," said I, "in troublous times, but I hope we shall again resume our former proud position, and go on in our glorious career!"

*Dr. Schwazey.*—I'm willin' for one to go on in a glorious career. Will you join me, fellow citizens, in a glorious career? What wages does a man git for a glorious career, when he finds himself?

"DR. SCHWAZEY," said I sternly, "you are drunk. You're disturbin' the meetin'."

*Dr. S.*—Have you a banquet spread in the house? I should like a rhynossyross on the half shell, or a hippopotamus on toast, or a horse and wagon roasted whole. Anything that's handy. Don't put yourself out on my account.

At this pint the Band begun to make hidious noises with their brass horns, and a exceedingly ragged boy wanted to know if there wasn't to be some wittles afcre the concern broke up? I didn't exactly know what to do, and was just on the pint of doin' it, when a upper winder suddenly opened, and a stream of hot water was bro't to bear on the disorderly crowd, who took the hint and retired at once.

When I am taken by surprise with another serenade, I shall, among other arrangements, have a respectful company on hand. So no more from me to-day. When this you see, remember me.

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