



SUPERFLUOUS.

JINKINS (*the Lion King*)—"So you're the young man that offered to 'beard the lion in his den,' hey? Well, are you all ready to go into the cage?"

JINSON—"Er—no, I don't think it will be necessary. Now that I get a close view of the animal I see that he is bearded enough already."

MRS. JIMPSECUTE BARS HER DOWER.

"WELL I never did!" said Mrs. Jimpsecute. "Such a fuss and nonsense about a little thing as these lawyers do make. I'd always heard they were a greedy, scheming set, cheating poor people out of their last cent, but I could not hardly believe it was as bad if I hadn't gone through it myself, though why they should have dragged me into it I really don't know, for I didn't know any more about it than the man in the moon, and if there is anything I hate it is worry over law papers. But Henry said I had to go and sign them. You see he sold his lot on Goosetrack Avenue the other day that he paid \$200 cash for, and all we got for it was a horse and buggy that we don't want in the least, now that the street cars are so handy, except on Sundays when they don't run, and it is a good thing too, for I don't think anybody ought to work on Sunday, they'd be far better at church or at home with their wives and families, and I told Henry he was a great fool, after he'd kept it so long and wouldn't sell when he had the chance for twice what he paid for it, though I don't think there are three houses on the street, and why anybody ever ran a street in that out-of-the-way place I can't understand, when there's houses by the hundred to let in town, but he said he couldn't afford to keep it any longer because he had to pay so much interest and taxes on it, which really is a downright shame that people should be ruined like that, and I suppose it won't make a bit of difference about putting in Fleming for Mayor, and I think they'd far better try and reduce the taxes instead of making all this row about him not wearing a tall hat, though I suppose it does cost a little more than a Christy stiff, for I know Henry never pays more than two or three dollars for his, and I think it was \$2.50 he paid for the last,

which is cheaper than a tall hat, but all the Mayor could save on his hats wouldn't make much difference.

"As I was saying, Mrs. Dewsbury, he sold the lot, and would you believe it, it took those lawyers about a month to fix up the papers after ever so much fussing and worrying to find out about the man that Henry bought the land from, and the man he bought from, and the mortgage that somebody gave on it forty years ago, and the other lawyers said the deeds was all wrong and they had to hunt up an old will and get a man that used to live in Owen Sound, but had gone off to Michigan, to sign something before they could get it fixed right, but I really believe all that was nothing but a scheme to get money, and Henry was just as cross as could be, and I don't hardly wonder, for they charged him \$27.40. And then nothing would do but they must have me sign the deed, though I never bought the property and wouldn't know it if I saw it, and indeed I was always against it and told Henry he'd be sure to lose his money, but he wouldn't take my advice. And so I just put my foot right down and said I'd have nothing to do with it first or last, but Henry said it was the law, and that if I didn't he couldn't sell the property at all for the deed would

be no good unless I would bar my dower, so rather than have any more trouble over it I went to the lawyers to-day and signed something. Such a worry and signing and swearing and rummaging up old papers over selling a fifty foot lot in a cow pasture that nobody will ever build on in their right senses, and I really believe something is the matter with the horse, too, and as like as not he'll die on our hands before we have a chance to sell the beast. And I felt so vexed and nervous about it that my hand shook so that I don't think anybody can possibly read my name, and I spilled some ink, too, over one of the papers, but the lawyer said it made no difference and smiled. I suppose he was thinking that bye-and-by when the land was sold again that would make more work for them, because some other lawyer will say that a deed all blotted up is no good and they'll have to go over all the papers again and write out another one. But, anyway, its all over as far as we are concerned, thank goodness, and I told Henry, 'Don't you ever,' says I, 'buy any more land, for if you do, as true as I'm standing here I'll not sign any more papers not if you was to go down on your knees to me,' and indeed I won't, Mrs. Dewsbury, and I think those lawyers are nothing but a set of robbers."

AT THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL.

REEVE—"Set down thar Mr. Snodgrass. Ye're out of order I tell ye."

SNODGRASS—"But Mr. Reeve, I submit——"

REEVE—"Ye submit do you? You'd better. Consarn yer picture, if ye submit sit down an' don't be trying to give no back talk to the chair!"