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No. 106

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CALL A MAN.

A plain, unassuming, bashful young man was John Eldred, living with his mother on a good farm, left him by his father who was dead .- They were in excellent circumstances, and John was as happy as a well-to-do farmer can be. He was no fool, either for he had a good library-and read it. too-and gained a great deal of useful knowledge. John was good looking, not a handsome (for there are none), but a tall, finely formed man. But John had one failing in my eyes; he was twenty-six years old and not married Nor was there any prospect of it happening very soon, for of all the bashful men that ever wore a shirt collar John Eldred was the worst. The girls in that vicinity were strangers to him, John always avoided anything that wore a dress, save his mother and sister.

John's mother was a quiet, loving woman who ever had uppermost in her mind the happiness of her children, consequently she had for some time secretly wished that John was married.

Gertrude, John's sister was a very pretty young lady, and also shared her mother's wish, but how to bring it about she could not imagine.

In the same neighborhood lived Judge Clark, who had a daughter named Mabel. Now John had for a long time secretly admired Mabel and although he had never betrayed it, his sister had guesed his secret, and resolved to bring a match about between the two, but just how to do it she did not know.

It happened in July, the anecdote I am now in shape to relate. Gertrude had invited a number of girls to a quilting party one afternoon, Mabel among the rest. She told John they were coming and added :

' Now, John, for my sake do, do come in to tea this afternoon. You know all the girls that will be here, and-'

But, Gertrude, that patch of timothy by the north wood must be out and as Jim has gone home to stay over Sunday, I shall have to cut it.'

And so, much to Gertrude's chagrin, he took the scythe over his shoulder after dinmer and started for the patch of timothy, but he lingered around the orchand until he saw the plump figure of Mable Clark coming and then, heaving a sigh, started for his

The patch of timothy referred to was a new cleared piece of land nearly surrounded by woods, and so full of log piles that it was impossible to use the machine. Here we leave John mowing and return to the party.

It was a very warm day, so the girls meved the chairs outdoors in shade of some large maples, and there they sat, chatting, joking, and laughing as only a party of lightheaded girls can.

Meanwhile John had mowed several times across the patch; and it began to be terribly hot. The sun poured it rays down with great intensity, and the thick wood on all sides kept off any breeze that might be stirring. John was more than hot-he was fairly boiling and as thirsty as an old toper. So John thinking that no one could see him sat down on a log and took off his shoes and pantaloons, and then, with his long gingham shirt and wide rimmed straw hat and his socks resumed mowing.—He had mowed twice around the piece, and was picking out the long grass around an old log pile, when right beside him he saw a pair of blue

John was no coward, but he was mortally afraid of snakes. If he had been warm before he was a lump of ice now. With a dash of his scythe he cut off the head of one of tuem, and the other one raised his head and darted towards him. John dropped his scythe, and turned and jumped just as the hooked teeth of the snake caught above the wide firm hem of the rear end of his gingham shirt.

He cast a look behind him and saw his dreaded enemy-streaming out like a pennant from a steamship-and thinking only of the terrible fate that awaited him if he stopped, bounded towards the house with the speed of an express train.

On, on he ran through the north meadow and orchard, and as he neared the house the thought of the party flashed on his mind. But there was no other way so on he ran.

He dashed past the west end of the house and as he rounded the corner, the whole party of girls met his view.

. Call a man !' he yelled, and then turned the corner. So great was his momentum that the snake swung around and hit him on the bare legs like the sharp sting of a raw-hide whip.

The girls screamed and jumped, and the quilt went over on the ground. The vision sped round the corner, and once more came the cry:

'Call a man !'

No quicker did he disappear around one corner of the house than he would appear at the other corner. Every time he turned the corner he would receive a terrible blow from the cold, slimy snake which would raise him from the ground at least four feet and at every blow he would yell:

'Call a man !'

The frightened girls rushed for the house and they had hardly got inside as John flew past with the shout:

'Call a man !'

Down across the road he went leaping the gate at a bound, and as he cantered through the flock of hens, scattering them the shout arose loud and clear :

'Call a man !'

Around the barn, back! again toward the house, went the strange pair, and as the gate was again leaped came the cry, this time of : 'For God's sake, call a man !'

As he again disappeared around the house Mabel Clark ran out of the door, and seizing a stick some four feet in length, stationed herself at the corner, with the cudgel elevated above her head. On came John, panting like a steam engine, and as he came around the corner, down went the club barely grazing John's head, but striking the racer a blow that broke his hold and back at the same time.

John concluded it best not to wait but gathered his remaining strength for a final dash, bounded into the house, up stairs and into his room.

An hour later Gertrude tapped at the door. 'John, will you come down to tea or shall I call a man?' 'I will come down, Gertrude,' was his

answer in a firm tone. And he did. He made a careful toilet, and there was not a feature on his face that betrayed embarrasement. Mabel had exacted a promise from the girls not to speak of the episode, or betray any knowledge of it whatever.

Mabel had John's company home that night; and in the glorious October weather there was a wedding at Judge Clark's, It was not until then that the story came out; but John often says to Mabel, '1 am thankful to Providence that you did not, call a man !'

DEATH BY INCHES.

HORRIBLE SITUATION OF AN OLD MAN .-- HE SINKS FOR A DAY AND A NIGHT IN THE MUD OF A NEW JERSEY SWAMP

On Tuesday afternoon Yopp quit work at cigar-making in a little shop of south Trenton and struck out down the river in the direction of Camden. He had with him a pet dog and a small wicker basket. To various persons of his acquaintance whom he met on the road he said he was going TO LOOK FOR WATER-CRESS

Along the river shore and in the swamps back from the river. From the time he left the main road until about 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning Yopp was missing. About half-past 9 on Wednesday Mrs. Martha Gilbert, whose husband has a small farm near the swamp, was attracted to the "cripples" near the house by the continued barking of her dog. She made her way through briars to the spot. Her own dog, a large hound, was giving vent to its feelings with a small dog beneath its fore-paws. The smaller dog kept up a whining and upon the approach of Mrs. Gilbert crouched at her feet as though it had something to communicate. Mrs. Gilbert tried to take the dog to the house, but it refused to stir in any path except a narrow, muddy one that led directly into the swamp. Mrs. Gilbert armed herself with her husband's boots, and struck out on the little dog's trail. After going about a quarter of a mile Mrs. Gilbert was brought to a sudden halt by the sight of a man's head and shoulders protruding from the black mud a few feet was bent forward, the eyes closed, and the face blank. His arms were extended, one grasping a low tussock and the other resting a few inches in the mud, stretching straight out.

Though much startled Mrs. Gilbert floundered into the mud with the idea of ascer taining whether or not the man had any life left in him. She herself began to sink, and was only able by the exercise of her whole strength to get back on the path. When she did get back she made her way hurriedly to the house and summoned her husband with the linner horn. Mr. Gilbert was told of the wonderful predicament of the stranger, and, with two men from a neighboring field hurried to the rescue. They took ith and give them a place beside His throne."

arm was buried a little deeper, and t the whole body had sunk perceptibly dur the time of her absence. The boards w placed upon surrounding tussocks, the roj worked by means of poles under the ar and around the chest and the arms draw up. A strong pull upon the rope show that the man could not be gotten out that way. More boards were brought, a upon fence rails a bridge was built over t treacherous mud clear up to the unfortuna old water-cress hunter's body. Short after ten o'clock the body was hauled o' into the path. It was still warm and the heart was beating faintly. It was taken the house and rubbed with flannel. Whish was poured down the throat, and in twent minutes the man opened his eyes. A fe moments later he was able to speak, which he did, incoherently, in German. Consc ousness was fully restored after awhile and then the stranger told who he we -Charles Yopp-and of his strange advenure. He had penetrated the swamp an had nearly filled his basket when he saw particularly fine bunch of water-cress, grow ing on a bank from which he was separate by the dich-like deposite of mud. In a tempting to push himself from tussock t tussock to reach the water-cress he dropped his basket in the mud, and, without thought of sinking deeper than the tops of his shoes, he had jumped of into the mud But his legs went down into the black de posit as though it were water. He caugh at the tussock and was about to gain a firm hold when the terrible situation paralyzed him and his arms refused to act. He sank deeper and deeper. The mud gurgled at though with hiss of a snake. He felt like Tantalus in the desire for rescue, but like an infint in strength. The sun was shining on the tops of the trees. He threw back his head and looked up. There seemed to be something below pulling him down. He was buried to the hips, and upon part of the body above the surface of the mud he felt almost as strong a suction as upon the legs. The sun moved from the tops of the trees and it began to grow dark. With the darkness his strength returned, but as it seemed to him the tussock had moved two or three inches from his hand. His shrieks were as loud as his cracked voice would permit. He exhausted himself with outcries that were only answered by the whine of his little dog in the path. He could see the stars come out through the branches. It was calculated by him in his frenzy that he was sinking at the rate of one inch every When the moon began to rise the half-

them a coil of rope and pieces of

board. Yopp was in the same positi

still unconscious. Mrs. Gilbert said to

reporter yesterday that she thought the

crazed Yopp could feel the pressure of the mud against his abdomen. The pain, he said, was not great, because whatever of physical torture there might have been was sunk in the agony of what he called his death upon the rack. With the moon up he fell into a more quiet mood. His past life entered his mind picture by picture. He prayed over all his sins and at last tor a quick death. Stupor fell upon him along toward the middle of the night. When the moon was almost overhead he lost consciousness and did not regain it until rescued. He was buried nineteen hours.

When the farmer Gilbert learned who Yopp was he set out for Trenton and told the unfortunate man's friends. They did not believe the story, but on Thursday Gilbert took the old man home. Medical sttendance was given. For a time it was thought that his body would get its strength and vigor back, but he grew weaker and at last died two days after his living burial. -Philadelphia Times.

Gift and Toy books at Gunn's.

A CHARGE INTO THE JAWS OF DEATH.-The respect gaid courage by the wandering tribes of the Anglo-Indian border is strikingly illustrated by an episode of Napier's famous campaign in Scinde. A detachment had been sent against one of the bravest of the native tribes, almost every warrior of which bore the proof of his valor in the green thread tied around his wrist, a badge more prized by the "hill men" than the Cross of the Legion of Honor by a French soldier. In the course of the skirmishing that ensued, an English sergeant and eleven of his men mistaking the orders given them, advanced up a narrow gully, where they suddenly found themselves confronted by more than 100 of the enemy. The gallant handful charged without a moment's hesitation and were slain to a man, after killing near from the edge of the path. The man's head ly thirty of their opponents. When the last Englishman had fallen the old chief of the tribe, one of the most renowned warriors of Northern India, turned to his men and said : "How say ye, my sons ! were these Feringhees (Europeans) brave men?" "The bravest we have ever met," answered the mountaineers with one voice. "Then," cried the old man, taking the precious thread from his own wrist and fastening it to that of the dead sergeant, "bind the reen thread upon them all, and not around one wrist only, but around both. Unbelievers though they be, there are no braver ouls in Heaven; and it may be that when iod sees how we have decorated them He will gradge such heroes to Sheitaun (Satan)