

A SQUATTER AS A WITNESS.

"What is your name?" asked the United States Attorney of an old "squatter" who had been summoned before the court as a witness?
"Which name, Squire?"
"Your right name of course."
"Ain't got none."
"What, you mean to say that you haven't got a name?"
"Oh, no, sir."
"This summons says that your name is Ananias Peters. Is that so?"
"Reckin it is."
"Thought you didn't have a right name?"
"I ain't."
"Look here, sir. Don't trifle with this court. Your preparation will not be tolerated here. Why did you say that Ananias Peters was not your right name?"
"Case it wasn't right to name a boy Ananias, therefore it ain't a right name. The Bible, I believe, sorter called Ananias a liar."
"Which," interposed the Judge, "makes it peculiarly applicable to your case?"
"Look-a-here, Judge, I don't want to progie with you, 'cause you've got the upper hand of me, but I don't want you to hit me with the Bible. A man's in a bad enough fix when you fling the law at him, but when you fling the law and the Gospel both, he ain't got no show."
"Where do you live?" asked the attorney.
"At home."
"But where is your home?"
"In the neighborhood o' where I live."
The Judge turned away to conceal a smile, and the attorney, giving the "squatter" a look of extreme severity, said: "Do you know where you are, sir?"
"Yes, sir, I'm here."
"You won't be here much longer unless you answer my questions."
"I am answerin' your questions, 'Squire. Go on with your rat killin'."
"Where were you when Mr. Jason, the defendant, cut timber from government land?"
"When did he do the cuttin'?"
"That's what I want to find out. I think it was some time in October."
"Wall, some times in October I was at one place an' some times I was at tuther."
"Did you ever see him cutting government timber?"
"I believe I did."
"When?"
"Durin' the war, when he was in the army."
"None of your foolishness now. Did not you come along the road one day in October and talk to the defendant while he was chopping down a tree?"
"No, sir."
"Remember that you are under oath. So you didn't see him while he was chopping down a tree?"
"Didn't say that, 'Squire, fur I did see him choppin' the tree."
"Did you stop and talk to him?"
"Yes, sir."
"Thought you said you didn't stop and talk to him?"
"Didn't say it."
"You did."
"Didn't say it."
"What did you say?"
"Said I didn't talk to him while he was chopping, fur when I come up and spoke, he quit choppin'. Ef thar's anything else you want know, fire away."—Arkansaw Traveler.

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"Is that so?" I asked quietly.
"Yes, sir; gone all to pieces."
"Utterly destroyed, you say."
His heart was nearly breaking. I approached him and said quietly:
"Don't you think you could find on man, General?"
"One man," said he in astonishment.
"I suppose I could. What do you want with him?"
"Go and get him," I said, laying my hand quietly on his arm, "and bring him here. Then you and I and he will charge together. This is sacred, General, and we may as well die here as anywhere."
He looked curiously for a moment, then laughed, and then galloped off in a flash, and shortly after was leading a new command gathered somewhere, and went into the fight again.

Clerk—"Prisoner at the bar, are you guilty or not guilty?" Prisoner—"Not guilty." Judge—"Who is your counsel?" Prisoner—"I have none. I am unable to employ a lawyer." Judge—"Mr. B., I appoint you to defend this man. Prisoner (after looking at his lawyer)—"Well, then, I plead guilty."

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