

OH! THE HORRIBLE DISGRACE OF IT

BEN JOHNSON'S OUTFIT SOLD FOR UNPAID TAXES.

And Terrible to Relate It Only Brought 60 Cents—This Included Both the Horse and Wagon—Tax Collector William Morgan, of the Fifth Ward, Was the Man Who Did the Selling—The Bill Amounted to \$2.06 and Ben Went to Get the Balance but Never Came Back.

Once more is Scranton's most unique character, Ben Johnson, in a melancholic frame of mind, and this time he has just cause for his despondency, for his celebrated horse and wagon have been sold for unpaid taxes. Had they been sold for anything else Ben says he wouldn't have cared, but the everlasting disgrace of having them sold for unpaid taxes weighs heavy on his soul and he is worrying himself almost to death.

The man who did the selling was Tax Collector William Morgan, of the Fifth ward, who appeared in front of Ben's domicile in Raymond court yesterday afternoon with a five-year old tax bill for \$2.06. Ben's outfit was outside, but Ben was in and when the tax collector knocked he poked his head out of an upper window and inquired:

"Who's that?" "I'm a tax collector and I've got a five-year old tax bill of \$2.06 against you," replied Mr. Morgan.

ORDERED HIM AWAY.

Ben sniffed disdainfully. "You go way now, man," he said, "and don't disturb the domestic tranquility of my yore house or you'll be sorry. I ain't going to pay no tax bill."

"You ain't going to pay it?" "No, I ain't and if you don't go right along I'll sic my dog on you," replied the gentleman of color.

This last remark angered Mr. Morgan and he thereupon decided to sell Ben's outfit on the spot. A good-sized crowd had by this time gathered and the sale was started immediately. The horse was brought into the center, where his good points—and he has a number of them on all parts of his body—could be displayed to the best advantage.

One of the especially distinctive features of this animal is that he is the only beast on record upon whom a difficult sylvan solo can be played, his ribs furnishing a range of two whole octaves. The wagon, which is a vehicular wonder, was offered for sale complete. Complete means including the extra or fifth wheel which Ben always carries in case of a breakdown.

"How much am I offered, gentlemen?" said Mr. Morgan with a business-like air. "Five cents," yelled a voice in the crowd, whereupon Ben, who had come into the open, looked at the owner of the voice with a "scathing, scornful scowl," and muttered something about Scranton people being bad judges of horse flesh.

BROUGHT SIXTY CENTS. The bids rose by fits and starts until finally sixty cents was offered by Constable "Tim" Jones and, no higher bids being received, the horse and wagon were knocked down to him for that amount.

There being still a balance of \$1.06 remaining, Mr. Morgan took Ben into custody and suggested that he drive to the county jail in the wagon instead of the regular patrol wagon. This Ben positively refused, with great indignation to do, and asked for a few minutes to see "a friend on Penn avenue, who'd settle up all right."

The permission was given and Ben is still looking for the friend and the tax collector is still looking for Ben. Constable Jones is undecided as to what he will do with the purchase, but he will let an anxious public know in a few days.

AND STILL THEY COME.

Grateful Acknowledgments. Unstinted Praise.

EVERY ONE DESERVED, TOO.

Make Up Your Mind That People Are Not Enthusiastic Over Failure.

PEOPLE DO NOT ENTHUSE IF THEIR DISEASES CONTINUE

When we first introduced MASON'S DYSPEPSIA CURE to the citizens of Scranton, we knew what the result would be. It is only a repetition of our experience elsewhere. It is a serious matter to enter any community and make such claims as ours. But we had a serious proposition to offer. We were as positive as if the campaign was concluded. MASON'S DYSPEPSIA CURE, as we have shown beyond all doubt, absolutely cures the worst forms of Dyspepsia. It is truly wonderful to consider the radical results. Complete relief in a few minutes of the most pronounced distress, and lasting cure within reasonable and speedy time. While the stomach is getting right, this remarkable remedy builds up the nervous system, bestirs the torpid liver, arouses sluggish indigestion to activity and tones generally. It is well known that the Dyspeptic has every symptom. If there is anything epidemic, he has it; or thinks he has. He is always looking for a cure, and gets it. MASON'S DYSPEPSIA CURE, by getting rid of the seat of the disease, and removing it thoroughly, settles all the other troubles. A sound stomach leaves no room for real or imagined evils. This remedy acts quickly and thoroughly. Try it and be glad. Don't suffer.

In addition to this remarkable Dyspep-

tic Cure, Mason has three other specific powders. HIS BROWN TABLETS FOR CONSTIPATION work over night—quietly, surely. You're O. K. in the morning, cure any bilious condition, remove headache, and restore the liver to its normal state. MASON'S RED TABLETS cure coughs, checks colds, bronchitis, and insure a good night's rest. MASON'S WHITE TABLETS cure in a wonderfully short time sore throat, tonsillitis and reduce inflammation of the most serious character. MASON'S CREAM OF OLIVES affords the most remarkable relief for scalds, burns, bruises, cuts, insect bites, but its prime use is in the removal of catarrhal conditions. In this it is simply wonderful. The most serious cases of this disorder can be cured. The relief is immediate. It is applied outwardly and works inwardly. Nothing to swallow. No nausea, no discomfort of any kind. Just prompt, unmistakable relief. A safe and speedy cure for all. Mason's Remedies are put up in 10, 25 and 50-cent boxes. For sale by

MATTHEWS BROTHERS, Wholesale and Retail, 229 Lacka. Ave. M'GARRAH & THOMAS, 206 Lackawanna avenue. C. LORENZ, 48 Lack ave. and cor. Wash. & Marlon. C. HENWOOD & Co., 1200 N. Main street. G. W. DAVIS, Providence Square & 211 West Market.

HUSBAND AND WIFE COMPRISE ONLY ONE

ANOTHER INSTANCE OF THIS ODD LEGAL UNIFICATION.

In an Opinion Handed Down by Judge Edwards Yesterday He Decided That a Married Couple Cannot Be Tenants in Common and Consequently That a Parcel Partition of Their Lands Is Ineffective. Interesting Discussion of the Merritt-Whitlock Ejectment Suit.

In one of his usual concise and interesting opinions Judge Edwards yesterday handed down a decision refusing a new trial in the case of William E. Merritt against A. J. Whitlock, an ejectment suit for thirty-six acres of land in Scott township.

The plaintiff bought at sheriff's sale eighty-six acres of a land, put up as the property of Nathan Whitlock, deceased. When he proceeded to take possession he found A. J. Whitlock, the son, opposing his taking a thirty-six acre plot, on the ground that it was given to him by his mother and that his father had not owned it. When the case came to trial the defendant set up a parcel partition, alleging that Nathan Whitlock and his wife, the defendant's parents, many years before the death of either, amicably arranged that each should take as his or her own a certain portion of the farm.

The thirty-six acre plot, which fell to the wife, was by her turned over to her son, the defendant, and he worked it ever since. Judge Edwards directed a verdict for the plaintiff, and later granted a rule for a new trial, that the legal matters involved might be carefully considered before the full bench.

WHAT THEY TRIED TO DO. The defendant first attempted to show that the proceedings brought by the plaintiff to secure possession of the land was void, because they had not been instituted before two aldermen or justices of the peace, as the old law required. The act of May 24, 1878, giving jurisdiction to one alderman or justice in such cases was held by defendant's counsel to be unconstitutional, because the amendment it provided was not regularly published. To this Judge Edwards simply says that the matter has been passed upon by the supreme court and the supplement upheld.

The real and controlling question in the case, he goes on to say, arises from the nature of the estate vested in Nathan and Sarah Whitlock, husband and wife during their lifetime. The land in dispute with other land was conveyed by Will and wife to Nathan Whitlock and Sarah Whitlock by deed dated April 5, 1878. In the deed is this clause: "And it is hereby understood,

defined and mentioned and described that of the aforesaid described piece or parcel of land, Sarah Whitlock, wife of Nathan Whitlock, has absolutely and for her own right in fee simple the undivided one-half part or portion." The defendant claims that soon after the purchase the husband and wife, while living on the farm, made a parcel partition, the husband taking fifty acres and the wife about thirty-six acres, the land in dispute; that the defendant, the son of Sarah Whitlock, by direction of his mother, took possession of the thirty-six acres and cultivated and improved it, and that he is the sole heir of his mother.

RIGHTS OF DEFENDANT. It will be thus seen that the right of the defendant to the land depends upon the validity of the alleged parcel partition between the father and mother, entered into over twenty years ago. Sarah Whitlock died soon after this event, her husband, Nathan Whitlock, surviving her. At the trial of the case in rejecting the defendant's offer to prove the parcel partition, the judge made the following comment: "The foundation of the defendant's claim is the parcel partition between Nathan and Sarah Whitlock; they held the property in entirety under the title and I do not see how a partition could be made without the wife complying with the statutory terms."

The opinion goes into an elaborate discussion and a raft of decisions are quoted in support of the stand taken at the trial. A conveyance to husband and wife, it is shown, creates neither a tenancy in common nor a joint tenancy. The estate of joint tenants is a unit made up of divisible parts; that of a husband and wife is also a unit, but it is made up of indivisible parts. In the last case, although there are two natural persons, they are but one person in law, and upon the death of either the survivor takes no new estate. The loss of an adjunct merely reduces the legal personage holding the estate to an individually identical with the natural person.

THEY MAY SELL. Tenants in common may sell their respective shares, are competent to make partition, liable to reciprocal claims of waste and of account and if one turns the other out of possession an action of ejectment will lie against him. These incidents can not exist in an estate held by husband and wife, and a tenancy in common is therefore to them a legal impossibility. This being the law, the judge concludes, there can be no partition in such an estate and the foundation of the defendant's case is swept away.

SCRANTON BOYS SIGNED. Local Ball Players Secured Good Berths for Coming Season. John O'Neill, the well known Minooka boy, who caught for Scranton in the Atlantic league last season, has been signed by Manager Jake Weiss,

A Noted Knight Templar Owes His Health to Peruna

Colonel T. P. Moody, a prominent Knight Templar, is well known in every city of the United States west of Buffalo, N. Y. In the city of Chicago as a prominent lodge man, being a member of the K. T.'s and also the Masons. The cut shows Colonel Moody in the costume of the Oriental Consistory Masons, 32nd degree. In a recent letter from 6800 Michigan avenue, Chicago, Ill., Mr. Moody says the following:

"For over twenty-five years I have suffered from catarrh, and for over ten years I suffered from catarrh of the stomach terribly. I have taken all kinds of medicines and have been treated by all kinds of doctors, as thousands of my acquaintances are aware in different parts of the United States, where I have trav. led, but my relief was only temporary, until a little over a year ago I started to take Peruna, and at the present time I am better than I have been for twenty years.

"The soreness has left my stomach entirely and I am free from indigestion and dyspepsia and will say to all who are troubled with catarrh or stomach trouble of any kind, don't put it off and suffer, but begin to take Peruna right away, and keep it up until you are cured, as you surely will be if you persevere.

"My wife, as many in the southwest can say, was troubled with a bad cough and bronchial trouble, and doctors all over the country gave her up to die, as they could do nothing more for her. She began taking Peruna with the result that she is better now than she has been in years, and her cough has almost left her entirely. The soreness has left her lungs and she is as well as she ever was in her life, with thanks, as she says, to Peruna. Your very truly,

"T. P. Moody." Catarrh in its various forms is rapidly becoming a general cure. An undoubted remedy has been discovered by Dr. Hartman. This remedy has been thoroughly tested during the past forty years. Prominent men have come to know of its virtues, and are making public utterances on the subject. To save the country we must save the people. To save the people we must protect them from disease. The disease that is at once the most prevalent and stubborn of cure is catarrh.

If one were to make a list of the different names that have been applied to catarrh in different locations and organs, the result would be astonishing. We have often published a partial list of these names, and the surprise caused by the first publication of it to all people, both professional and non-professional, was amusing. And yet we have never enumerated all of the diseases which are classed as catarrh. It must be con-

ferred, however, to see even this partial list drawn up in battle array is rather appalling. If the reader desires to see this list, together with a short exposition of each one, send for our free catarrh book. Address The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, Ohio.



Colonel T. P. Moody, of Chicago, Had Catarrh Twenty-Five Years and Was Cured by Peruna.

JOHN WANAMAKER TO THE CITIZENS

His Address Is Adopted by the Business Men's League—The Political Situation in Pennsylvania as Viewed by an ex-Office Holder.

Philadelphia, March 27.—At a meeting of the Business Men's Republican league today an address by John Wanamaker to the citizens of Pennsylvania was adopted.

The address deals entirely with the election laws of the state. It describes in detail how the election laws have been violated in Philadelphia and continues:

"This is not the work of any political party, though it brings shame upon all parties, whose names are thus employed and perjured. It is done by the machines of both parties, and the government produced by it is governed by the machines and for the machines. But the situation in Philadelphia is only a little worse than in many parts of the state at large. Other sections under the present state constitution are in a less degree because political parties there are less corrupt, and are to some extent under the control of the people. But similar abuses of the most terrible character are co-extensive with the commonwealth."

The address then goes on to say that under the present state constitution effective and radical ballot reform is an impossibility, and therefore not free nor pure.

"There never will be in this state," the address continues, "any genuine ballot reform—that is to say, true and safe registration, and free and fair elections—without repealing, coercion, bribery and the countless crimes with which we are now, alas, all too familiar, until article 8 of the constitution, entitled, 'suffrage and elections' shall have been revised so as to provide for compulsory personal registration and adoption of the Australian secret ballot or the voting machine. Mr. Wanamaker, in the address, further says that "the time has arrived when nothing less than the assemblage of the people themselves in sovereign constitutional convention will suffice to restore our liberties and to adequately safeguard them for the future. All other measures have been blocked and will again be again be blocked by the machines and their allies."

"I therefore address myself to the people of Pennsylvania, to all qualified electors without distinction of party, whose lives, liberties and properties lie today at the mercy of irresponsible machines, and their powerful secret and corrupt allies, and ask them to unite in the nomination and election of candidates for the legislature pledged to vote for a fair, non-partisan act calling a constitutional convention for immediate ballot reform, the substance and essential provision of which shall be embodied in the fundamental law, beyond the reach of corporate or machine power."

PHILIPPINES COMMISSION.

Holds a Preliminary Meeting and Visits Secretary Root.

Washington, March 27.—The new Philippines commission held a preliminary meeting today. Judge Taft, the president, called the body to order and in a discussion which lasted about three hours the plans for the movements of the commission were thoroughly canvassed. Later the commission proceeded in a body to the war department to pay their respects to Secretary Root. Unlike the first commission, which received instructions directly from the

state department and reported through the department, this commission will deal solely with the war department. The reason for the change is that the second commission has to deal with no questions affecting foreign interests or relations, and is created with the primary object of setting up local governments through the archipelago, a purely international function. Secretary Root welcomed the commission, and in answer to their questions as to when they might expect to receive their instructions, suggested that they assemble again Thursday, when he expected to be able to communicate with them further. Therefore the commission adjourned until Thursday.

Cheap Gas for Baltimore.

Annapolis, March 27.—The bill to reduce the price of illuminating gas in Baltimore passed the senate today and the cost of that commodity will hereafter be \$1.10 per thousand feet unless the governor vetoes the bill, which is not probable or unless the courts decide that the general assembly has no right to make the reduction.

THE LEADING AND LARGEST MILLINERY STORE.

Gerson's

413-Lackawanna Avenue-413



SPRING OPENING. SPRING OPENING

Paris Trimmed Hats, Untrimmed Hats, Millinery Goods and Trimmings.

Today, Tomorrow and Friday

The first showing of 1000 styles in Ladies', Misses and Children's Hats. The choicest ideas of Foreign and domestic makes will be shown in the greatest variety and number ever brought together in this city. Hats from Paris, London, Berlin, made by the creators whose reputations are world-wide—models created by the best New York trimmers from our own New York store, the largest Millinery House in New York City.

Untrimmed Hats and Millinery Goods

Our Opening Display will demonstrate our great leadership. Every imaginable idea and style in Untrimmed Hats and Millinery Trimmings of all kinds will be displayed on our counters and will be marked in most cases at half what like qualities are marked elsewhere. We have sent out no opening invitations, but cordially invite everybody to visit us on our Opening Days.

GERSON'S LEADING MILLINERY,

413 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton, Pa.

Advertisement for Headlight Water White Oil. Includes text: "Lots of Light", "Fill the house with clear, brilliant white light. There's no excuse for dingy homes in these days of our", "Headlight Water White Oil", "A dark house isn't healthy. And poor oil isn't economical. You can buy our Headlight Water White Oil at the same price as inferior oil—cheaper than some. Tell your dealer to supply you with our Headlight Water White Oil. ATLANTIC REFINING CO."

Advertisement for Hayes & Varley. Includes text: "Hayes & Varley", "Black Goods and Silks.", "An excellent showing of these goods in the spring weaves and the time-tried sort. All new dependable goods—we can speak of no others—only the kind that will make friends for the", ".....NEW STORE.....", "Redfern Serges, French Serges, Poplins, Chevots, Figured Novelties, Camel's Hair, Henrietta, Brilliantine, Etc.", "Foulards, Poplins, Corded Taffetas, Liberty Satins, Peau de Soul, Stripes and Figures, Open Work Effects, Etc., Etc.", "We invite you to visit our new store. If you have, come again. Why not today?", "424 and 426 Spruce St., bet. Washington and Wyoming"