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VOL. VI. NO. 49.

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FRUITS, STATIONERY,

TIONESTA, PA., MARCH 18, 1874.

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TOM RIGBY'S MULE.

"Charlie, tell us a story! This from a knot of good fellows gathered in the office at the close of our day's labor. "Well, boys, I can't think of anything else to night, but some pranks we used to play in the old 'Second Ohio,' lying near Nashville, Tenn., waiting for old Hood to give us something to do. Company A had a Second Licutenant named Tom Higby, as mean a cuss as ever tyranized over a set of men. Tom became possessed of a mule somehow, but nobody knew, although he said he had bought him. Talk about your mules! That mule, for straight out cussedness, could beat all creation. No use talking, he could outkick a Kickapoo Indian, and give him five in the game. I tell you, boys, that mule could kick a fly off a mouse's ear and never scratch the mouse. Tom was the only man in the regiment that could get within forty rods of him and not get kicked all to pieces. Tom Higby was the all-fired-est stinglest man in the brigade, but he was always generous about lending

that mule. He'd say, 'Oh, yes, boys, take the mule and welcome. Certainly, go get him. He's in the corral. Use him as much as you want to. Don't mind his playfulness. Yes, take him.' Then he would put his hands in his pockets and walk off with the air of a man who had done something magnanimous. But he was just as certain that the boys wouldn't use Tell him I's sorry I couldn't stay wid that mule, as he was that he would not lend them a dollar, and you had a low's muel. Why, I knowed dat muel dead sure thing on it that you couldn't from a chile. Good bye, fellers." borrow a dime from Tom, no how.

"It was one of the diversons of the camp to get a greenhorn to borrow Tom's mule. We would all go down to the corral to see him get the mule, or the mule get him, which was certain to be the case. That mule wouldn't they have—what are known as the stand fooling. He would extend the hind hoof of friendship to a fellow quicker than greased lightning, and he would laugh just as plain as any mule could to see yreeny gather him. mule could to see greeny gather him-

self up and git for the fence. "Well, one day Lieutenant Van Horne picked up a darkey servant first, and no bite to count unless it somewhere, and the boys thought from reached the centre of the pic. Mesilla some remarks they had heard that there was fun shead. Van never be-lieved that story of Higby's about buying the mule. The darkey had not been in camp but a short time, until be got into a muss and kicked the cook of company C badly, and got a flopped his lip over a dozen successful-reputation. He was as homely a conly. [Odds offered on Mesilla.] La traband as could be found in the State, and his name was 'Pete Brownlow, Massa Brownlow's boy.' In a day or two the boys concluded it would be a good thing to give the mule a shy at Pete. Van was nothing loth to see the fun, so he sent Pete with his compliments to Lieut. Higby, 'and would he please lend Lieut. Van Horne his OVER HILBRONNER & CO.'s STORE,

Pete went over, grinning from ear On examination, a dog collar was to ear, and making his best bow, adfound in the centre pie, and La Cruces dressed Tom, 'Massa Higle am, sar-vint, sir, Massa Warmhorn wants for Jack Martin the referee, decided in to borrow dat ar mule of yourn, and favor of Mesilla, on the ground that pervents his compliments tu Massa everything was fair in a mince-pie." Higlebum, and says dat how as dat muel is a mighty harnsum critter, an' he'd use him good.' 'Oh, yes, certainly, my ace of spades, certainly. Tell Lieut. Van that I am only too happy to have it in my power to oblige the Have the mule? Certainly. Just go though many, many years her senior get him, Ebony. Take him at any The temptation of money and posi-

take him any time you want him.' "Pete backed out grinning worse than ever, and in a few moments was his daughter she made that celebrated moving toward the corral with a bridle he had borrowed from the quarter- ceived more attention than has ever master. We all followed to see the been extended to an American citizen fun. Old Satan (that's what we call- At his death he bequeathed a fortune ed the mule) saw him coming, and to her, who had been a most faithful took in the situation at once. He and devoted daughter, and she now ascommenced to work one ear back and forth, a sure sign he was awake, and to slowly move his artillery end around in Pete's direction. But Pete had been there before and knew which end of a mule was loose. So he commenced a right oblique to flank the mule. Satan waited until Pete was about to lay hands upon him, when he and let fly with both batteries at Pete. But if Satan was spry so was Pete. With one spring he had Satan around the neck, and then there was fun. Pete got the mule by the car and the mule got Pete by the seat of the breeches, and they had it nip and tuck. At last Pete succeeded in backing the mule into the corner and after a struggle got the bridle on him.

In a jiffy Pete was on his back and then there was some tall bucking and biting. Did you ever see a mule buck? No! Well, he just gets all four feet off the ground together and when he

out of a dinner pot and he rode out

of the corral a conquering hero. "Pete went straight for Highy's quarters, and saluting with the air of a Major General, addressed Tom; 'I done told you massa dat's a bully muel. But you didn't fool dis chile much. Seen dat muel before, I has. Know right whar you confiscated dat Plowed corn wid him many a muel. Massa Brownlow own dat critter and dis nigger too. Me an' dis muel is gwine to town, we is. He's a bully muel, and Pete's a bully nigger, you jist kin bet.' And digging his heels into Satan's rios off he went at a swinging canter. Tom Higby was the maddest man you ever saw, and the expressions he made use of on that occasion would not grace the pages of a Sunday School book. For long enough afterward, if you wanted to hear cussing, all you had to do was to ask Tom who he sold his mule to. Then get out of the way, for he had an unpleasant habit of throwing things around

"We did not see Pete again until after the battle of Murfreesboro; he had joined the Seventh Michigan as a servant to the Major, and his first remark as the Seventh filed by, was 'Say, any ob you fellers got a muel you want rode. I's the general muel breaker for dis command, I is. Whars Massa Higlebum? Gib him dis chile's best spects. I's Major Way's hoy now, I Gib my lub to Massa Warmhorn. him, but I had to git Massa Brown-

### A PIE-BITING MATCH.

The people in New Mexico originate some curious societies. In Mesilla and La Cruces they have-or it is said the contest is reported to have been as follows: "The pies were to be mince, and one inch thick, Mesilla to bite reached the centre of the pie. Mesilla piled up nine pies and shut down on them without an effort. La Cruces, elevated the top of his head and closed his jaw over eleven. [Great enthusiasm among his friends.] Mesilla came to the scratch, or bite, manfully, and Cruces at this point, said: 'Well, it is time to stop this nonsense; hand me fifteen.' They we given him; he smiled, laid the back of his head on his shoulders, and came down on the bundle of pies like an alligator on a mouthful of flies. But his teeth did not come together. He struggled and jerked, but it was no use. Three of his teeth broke and his hold gave way.

time. Don't need to ask me. Just tion was probably very great but Miss Risley refused the offer. Subsequently he adopted her, and with him and journey during which Mr. Seward rebeen extended to an American citizen. sumes the name of her generous and

grateful friend. A New Orleans merchant, moved by the pitiful tale of a woman who said her husband lay dead at home, that she hadn't the means of burying him, charitably gave her \$14 to get the poor man under ground. Before swung around on a pivot, limbered up giving the money, however, he went and let fly with both betteries at enough, it was a swollen, discolored corpse, that should have been buried days ago, and in his hurry to leave the noisome tenement, he forgot his umbrella. So he reluctantly returned to claim it. He hurried quickly but softly up stairs, tiptoed to the door, lifted the latch, and saw—the corpse sitting up in the coffin counting his \$14 over very deliberately.

The Mount Sterling (Ky.) Sentinel gives this notice of a marriageable young female in Montgomery county:
"A young woman in Slate at a party off the ground together and when he lights humps up his back kind of sudden like. Pete wrapped his long legs a whole roast pig, an entire stuffed turnaround the mule and stuck to him, and, around the mule and stuck to him, and, dodgers and drank a gallon of hard dodgers and drank a gallon of hard dodgers. SHEER POVERTY.

In Reading bread, meat and clothng are distributed at the station house to the deserving poor. A few mornings since a thinly clad and sorrowful looking woman approached the bread pile over which Chief Cullen presided. She carried a braket on ber arm, and as she extended it to receive her allow-ance of charity's goods she put on a look of sorrow that would have melted the heert of an anchorite. The Eagle says the quick eye of Chief Culien took in her situation at a glance, and looking her in the face, he inquired: "What is your name?" The woman "What is your name?" The woman answered in the German language, and gave her name as Fleckner. "How many brick houses have you?" "Only one," was the answer. "How many building lots do you own?" "Four-leen," was the reply. "How many pounds of pork did you kill last fall?" was next asked the poor woman. She answered slowly, "About six hundred," "How many hogs have you now at first a day old. After staying twesty-four hours, and finding that everybody was tolerably comfortable, he returned to Williamsport without anything being said about the dispatch, his mother-in-law supposing that of course he had received it. The day after his arrival the lines were "How many hogs have you now at home in the pen?" was the next thunderbolt. "Only two," answered the needy female. "How much money needy female. have you in bank?" said the Chief.
"Only a little now," said poor Mrs.
Fleckner. Chief Cullen gently took the poor woman by the arm and kindly escorted her out of the opartment. Several minutes afterward she appeared again and had a doleful story to tell. She said that it was not fair to refuse her bread, when her other rich neighbors had been supplied and bounteously at that. She stated that subject, the more he became alarmed one of her neighbors had thirty-six at the extraordinary occurrence. He loaves of bread in the house that she took the early train for the city, and had procured at the station bonse. during the journey was in a condition Mrs. Fleekner then narrated the sorrowful fact that she had a large family of two children and that her coal was riously to the house, and scared his entirely consumed. She said that the weather had been so bad as not to permit her gathering any for several days. She wiped the tears from her eyes and said that a poor weman should not be refused bread when she had nothing to cat at home. Chief Cullen replied that she was to be pitied indeed; but as long as there were people applying for help who did not own their own houses, fourteen building lots, six hundred pounds of pork, two hogs, and a little money in bank, she would have to take a back seat no matter what her condition was. The poor woman went home without bread and everybody around said it served her per fectly right.

At a very successful seance in Cincinnati the other night, a man burst into tease when the medium described very accurately a tall, blue eyed spirit standing by him, with light side whiskers, and his hair parted in the middle. 'Do you know him ?" inquired a man at his side, in a sympathetic whisper. 'Know him? I guess I do," replied the unhappy man, wiping his eyes. "He was engaged to my wife. If he hadn't died be would have been her husband instead of me. Oh, George, George?" he murmured, in a voice choked with emotion, "why did you peg out?"

In Cooperstown they tell a story of an English joker who once visited Fenimore Cooper. Cooper was then the most conspicuous man in the little town. One day, while Mr. Cooper was dining with the Englishman, he poured out some native wine-wine grapes raised in his own garden. Taking up a glass and looking through it with pride, Cooper remarked, "Now, Mr. Stebbins, I call this good, honest wine." "Yes, Mr. Cooper, I agree with you, it is honest wine-'poor, but honest." Mr. Cooper went on telling his "Injun" stories.

North Adams has a tailor long known for his keen, pungent wit. Not long since a well-known clergyman called at his shop with a pair of pan-taloous, and asked him if they could be repaired. The knight of the shears unrolled them, held them up in a most artistic manner, carefully examined them, and replied, "Yes, yes; the knees are the best part of them." The reverend gentleman saw the joke, smiled blandly and gracefully bowed himself out.

Wm. M. Evarts tells this good story A few summers since at the urgent request of one of his younger daughters, he sent up to his country place in Vermont a donkey for her use. She had read about donkeys, but was not familiar with their peculiar vocalism. The animal's strange noises inspired her with the profoundest pity for his evident distress. So she wrote to her father: "Dear papa, I do wish you would come up here soon; my donkey ia lonesome.

We are told that three hundred years ago ladies combed their bair just as they do to-day. This won't do in a civilized land and among an obone of whom tossed him a glub, he finally conquered that mule. If you Miss Mary Jane Severance, and she is ago ladies used to comb their hair on a head-line in a Western paper's obitever saw a proud nigger, Pete was one. a plump and pretty brunette, lively as their heads—now they hang it over uary. That proof-reader was admonthis eyes stuck out like cotton balls a cricket and hasn't a tapeworm,"

Legal notices at established rates.

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All bills for yearly silvertisements collected quarterly. Temporary advertisements must be paid for in advance.

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ANOTHER DAUGHTER.

Gillingham was in Williamsport the other day, and while attending to his business there he had a strong premonition that something was the matter at home; so in order to satisfy himself, he determined to run down to Philadelphia on the next train. In the meantime, his mother in-law sent bim a dispatch to this effect :

"Another daughter has just arrived. Hannah is poorly. Come home at

once. The lines were down, however, and, meanwhile, Gillingham arrived home fixed, and that night he received a dispatch from the telegraph office dated that very day and conveying the following intelligence:

"Another daughter has just arrived. Hannah is poorly. Come home at

once. Gillingham was amazed and bewildered. He couldn't understand it. Daughters appeared to him to be getting entirely too thick. He walked the floor of his room in agony all night trying to get the hang of the thing, and the more he considered the mother-in-law into convulsions by rushing in a frenzy and demanding what on earth had happened. But he was greatly relieved to find that there were no twins in the nursery, and to learn how the mistake occurred. But he is looking how for the telegraph operator who changed the date of that dispatch. Gillingham is anxious to meet him. He wants to see him about something.

At a concert in Buffalo a small boy tumbled off his seat. This was inter-preted "fire!" and the audience made a frantic rush for the doors and win-dows. Women and children were trampled under foot, and many leaped from the windows, a distance of fourteen feet. After a general alarm of fire had been sounded, a committee was appointed to go and wake the boy

And artist who painted a portrait for a gentleman noted for his frequent libations, invited the gentleman's friends to see it. One of tham, who was rather near sighted, approached it rather too closely, and the artist, in alarm, exclaimed: "Don't touch it, it ain't dry!" "No use looking at it, then," replied the old gentleman; it it can't be my friend."

A guardian of the peace in New York made his first essay, as a "mount-ed policeman," one day last week, by grasping the horse's tail and attempting to climb up that way. The sur-geon subsequently remarked that no horse ever had a finer opportunity, or took advantage of it with such infinite scorn of the consequences.

The Savannah News says a negro was buried alive in a well at Butler recently. His friends dug down to him in about four bours, and found him alive and well. He said that he never wanted to eneeze so bad in his life, but was afraid he would jar down some more dirt.

A naughty little boy, blubbering because his mother would not let him go down to the river on the Sabbath, upon being demollshed, said, "I didn't want to go a swimmin" with 'em, ma; I only wanted to go down and see the bad little boys drown for goin'a swimmiu' ou a Sunday."

"I see," said a young lady, "that some printers advertise blank declarations for sale; I wish I could get one."
"Why?" asked the mother. "Because, ma, Mr. G.—— is too modest to ask me to marry him; and, perhaps, if I should fill up a blank declaration he would sign it."

An epicure in Vermont writes to his local newspaper that having indulged freely in the eating of frogs, his hands are now covered with what his doctor calls "tumerous enlargements of the vascular papills and indurations of the surrounding epidermis"-that is, warts.

The people of Minnesota are trying to solve the fuel question. A commers how to prepare and use peat.

"A Good Man Gone to Roost," was