

Massachusetts gentleman, just returned from over the Canadian border, tells these stories: He was in the hotel general-accommodation room, when two veterans of the (hotel) bar, laying schemes for a drink, began to tell stories to each other for his benefit. "These are awful hard times," said one. "I never saw such times before, except when I was in Ohio, and then I was hard put to it to get along. Nothin' to do. I had a yoke of steers, but they wa'n't earnin' nothin'. But I lived right on the road the Western emigrants went over every day. So I dug a hole in that road at the foot of the hill near my house, turned a livin' spring of water into it, and made a good mud-hole. Well, when the emigrants came along, every day there would be one or more teams get stuck in the mud-hole, and they would see my steers standin' out doin' nothin' an' they would send up an' git me to come an' help 'em out; and I always charged as much as five dollars a lift. Well, I kep' that mud-hole right up in good repair till I made \$25,000 out of it, an' then sold it out for \$3,000, an' moved up here." Story number two was the other Munchausen's companion-piece for the yoke of steers. "When I was a-choppin'—I could chop some, you know—an' folks used to ask me how much I could do in a day. 'Have you ever tried it?' says they. 'No, never but once, an' that wasn't really a try.' You see, just to show 'em what I could do, I got up one winter mornin' afore light an' ground up my ax sharp; oh! just as sharp, an' went into the woods. An' I chopped like sixty till about three o'clock in the afternoon, when I thought it was as much as I could pile afore sundown, an' I went to pilin'. Well, when I had it all piled up it measured twenty-seven cord. An' then I know somethin' was wrong, for I knew at the rate I had been chopping it oughter be more. So I went back an' begun lookin' 'round to see what the trouble was. An' there, right at the foot tree I cut in the mornin' was my ax-head. You see, the thing was loose and slipped off, an' I had been choppin' all day with the bare helve."

**Removing Disabilities.**

Price M. B. Young, a recent representative in Congress from Georgia, was a Confederate general and a graduate of West Point. He came to Washington soon after the war, seeking to have his disabilities removed. He is a fine, manly fellow, and seems to have accepted the results of the war in good faith. He went to Thad Stevens, and Thad began to play with him, as he sometimes did with those whom he intended to make his victims. He said:

"You are a graduate of West Point, I believe?"

"Yes, sir."

"Educated at the expense of the United States, I believe, which you swore faithfully to forever defend?"

"Yes, sir."

"You went into the service of the infernal rebellion?"

"Yes, sir."

"You were a brigade commander in the raid into Pennsylvania which destroyed the property of so many of my constituents?"

"Yes, sir."

"It was a squad of men under your direct charge and under your personal command that burned my rolling mill?"

"Yes, sir."

Young thought he was gone, but seeing that the old veteran had come into the possession of the last fact, which Young did not dream he knew, it was impossible to deny the truth of his question. Thad roared out: "Well, I like your impudence. I will see that your disabilities are removed. Good morning." And the next day the bill passed the House.

**A French Lady's Experience.**

A lady of thirty, a plump and jolly brunette, sees with some anxiety a dark, downy hide penciling itself on her superior lip. She does not care to compete with the bearded woman, and consults the advertisements. She finds just what she wants—a depilatory pomade, warranted to remove the most obnoxious moustache woman had in five applications. She obtains a box at a price of ten francs, and follows the directions on the label with care. The moustache thrives on the depilatory, and after a while madam yields to the inevitable, and consoles herself by reflecting that it might be worse. Three or four years roll by, and she sees with alarm that her hair is beginning to thin. A trifle of moustache can be borne, but a bald head never, and again she has recourse to the advertisements. She finds the article she needs—a miracle pomade—

increase the thickness and beauty of her hair. On visiting the shop she is stopped. It is the same shop, the same attendant, the same bottle at the same price, the same pomade so far as she can judge from appearances. Only the label has been changed. The merchant, on being severely examined, admits that it is the same pomade. He failed so utterly to remove hair that he turned it into a hair invigorant. With great joy the customer sees a pot and applies it—and her hair falls out faster than

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Our Piano is unsurpassed by any in the market for its rich and powerful tones, and its adaptation to the human voice in sympathetic, mellow and singing qualities. It speaks for itself.

We are willing to place it beside any other make of Piano on its merits, either in beauty of case, or excellence of tone, and "at half the money" of equally good instruments.

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Whilst visiting the Centennial Exhibition, Vineland can be visited at small expense.

A paper containing full information, will be sent upon application to CHARLES K. LANDIS, Vineland, N. J., free of cost.

The following is an extract from a description of Vineland, published in the New York Tribune, by the well-known Agriculturist, Solon Robinson:

All the farmers were of the "well-to-do" sort, and some of them, who have turned their attention to fruits and market gardening, have grown rich. The soil is loam, varying from sandy to clayey, and surface gently undulating, intersected with small streams and occasional wet meadows, in which deposits of peat or muck are stored, sufficient to fertilize the whole upland surface, after it has been exhausted of its natural fertility.

It is certainly one of the most extensive fertile tracts, in an almost level position, and suitable condition for pleasant farming, that we know of this side of the Western prairies. We found some of the oldest farms apparently just as profitably productive as when first cleared of forest fifty or a hundred years ago.

The geologist would soon discover the cause of this continued fertility. The whole country is a marine deposit, and all through the soil we found evidences of calcareous substances, generally in the form of indurated calcareous marl, showing many distinct forms of ancient shells, of the tertiary formation; and this marly substance is scattered all through the soil, in a very comminuted form, and in the exact condition most easily assimilated by such plants as the farmer desires to cultivate.

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