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Hotel Clerks Vindicated.

"When I was your age," said grandfather, to a citizen who was deploring the unreliability of the newspapers-"when I was at your age, I had the same fault to find with the papers. I couldn't believe a word that was in 'em . For instance, every day I read some screed about hotel clerks stickin' up their noses at poor but respectable people who were forced to stop with them. At that time I was proprietor of the fifth Avenue hotel, and was runnin' it on the European plan—if you don't see what you want, ask for it, no trouble to show goods, an' that sort of thing. I didn't believe a word of what the papers writ about hotel clerks, an' was mighty sure mine warn't that way. To satisfy, myself, however, and windicate hotel clerks everywhere, I put up

a job on the newspapers."

A smile lit up grandfather's countenance at this stirring of memory's embers; but it quickly vanished and he went on:

"I allus dressed in the height of fash-ion; but I borrowed a suit of clothes of John Jacob Astor, an' disguised myself as a poor but honest person from the in-

terior. I had let some friends in the secret, an' they were present to see hotel clerks windicated, an' a stingin' rebuke administered to a scurrilous press.' At this point grandtather chuckled audibly. "When all was ready I walked into the Fifth Avenue, carryin' an ordinarylookin' gripsack, an' registered as John

Crabapple from Squeedunk. 'Nice day! I said, as I ornamented the register with my stage-name. 'Glad to hear it,' said the clerk, as he fixed his necktie at a lookin'-glass in the office. 'What time kin I get a train to Hackensack?' I asked—for I knowed that particular clerk was strong on time-tables, an' I wanted to fetch him out afore the invited guests, who were sittin' around takin' it all in. His reply knocked me clear off'n my pins. He said, never once taking himself away from the lookin'-glass: 'See here, my baldheaded patriarch! you don't see no people sleepin' around here on benches with their around here on benches with their valises between their feet, do you? You don't see no man shovin' trucks around loaded with trunks, do you? You don't observe any little girls runnin' around with apples to sell, do you? No, I reckon not! This is no railroad depot, dear sir! If you take me for a ticketagent, a baggage-smasher, or a brakeman, you get left. I run a hotel, not a mere railroad.' I was as mad as a wet hen; but I waited a spell. When he got his necktie to run parallel with his moustache, he turned around an'ssked me what I was after, an' if I would mind removin' my carpet-sack from the counter, an' carryin' it out to the stable, where it evidently belonged. This was rubbin' your grandfather the wrong way of the ha'r; but as I had gone into the scheme for the good of clerks in general, I naturally thought I could stand it if they could. I said I would like to have a room, if it was all the same to him. He

said he would give me a room in the cellar, only he was afeard I might sprout. 'Young man,' said I, flarin' up, 'I hev money to pay my way an' sleep in the bridal chamber, an' I don't propose to take no lip from any stuck-up hotel clerk.' 'Who's a stuck-up hotel clerk?' he yelled, dancing out of his little den, an'puttin' up his hands- who's a stuckup hotel clerk?' I told him I was only jokin', an' was willin' an' anxious to take it all back; but he wouldn't have it. He danced roun', an' bobbed up an' down, an' finally hit me a terrible blow on the nose. 'Take that, you old hay-seed!' he yelled; 'an' that, an' that, an' that!' An' I did as he recommended. When I was beginnin' to get back at his beginnin' to get back at him, he struck the bell an' seven porters seized me an' hustled me out on the street, the clerk bringin' up the rear, as

it were, with his box-toed shoes. On the sidewalk a policeman collared me, an' I was locked up for thirty-six hours afore I could git a chance to explain "Then it can hardly be said that you succeeded in vindicating hotel clerks against the slanders of the press."
"Windicate," replied grandfather, moved to wrath; and he ambled off,

stabbing the door spitefully with his

cane. - Cincinnati Enquirer.

How a Colonel Won a Bridle.

The Hartford (Conn.) correspondent of the Springfield Republican tells the following story of General H. W. Birge, formerly of the Thirteenth Connecticut volunteers: Birge was ever a fine horseman, and it was while he was recruit-ing his regiment that the incident oc-curred. The colonel—as he was then was riding down the street when he saw in the second-story window of a har-ness shop an elegant bridle. "What ness shop an elegant bridle. "What will you take for that bridle?" said Birge to the proprietor. "You may have it free if you will ride up there and get it," was the rep.y. This was no sooner said than the colonel turned his horse's head and spurred him up the wooden staircase that led to the second story, seizel the bridle, turned and rode down again—this last being, as Birge phrased it, "the only ticklish part of the job" The horse that performed this feat was very highly valued by the general, and was tenderly cared for as long as he lived.

What He Said.

"Jennie, darling," he said, as they sat cosily side by side in the big old-fashioned chair, whose generous arms had often encompassed a similar pair; "my sweet girl"—and the fire blazed and crackled, and snapped its lively glances of light out into the darkening room; "my dearest one"—and the fitful shadows came and went in the apartment, making grotesque figures upon its handsome walls; "light of my life"— and her pretty head nestled confidingly against his manly vest, through whose folds the beating of his tender heart was audible; "my beacon light"—and he pressed in his honest palm her little hand—oh, so little!—as he said, "my little pet;" and outside the wind blew fierce, while the dashing rain smote hard against the pane, heightening the peaceful influence of the glowing grate;
"my own dear girl"—and the tremor in
his "oice was born of purest love—"my
guiding star," he said—he said—Well;
blest if we know what else he did say, but that was enough. With a woman's intuition she knew his meaning, and she scooped him in .- Rockland Courier.

The tusk that Cetywayo sent over to England as a herald of peace, is seven feet long and nearly three feet in circumference at the big end. It was a very appropriate emblem of peace. If we should see a man coming at us with a tusk like that, we'd go in for peace on any terms, and pay the hall rent "ourselves."—Burlington Hawkeye.

An Edinburg woman, whose hus band had beater her 920 times in four years, had him arrested and he was sent to jail for three days. The punishment was too light. The brute should have been sent to jail for a whole week. The next thing we know he'll kill his wife, and then he'll get locked up for a month.

A land flowing with milk and honey may be very rich, but it ought to make things quite damp and uncomfortable for farmers.-Picayune.

-Norristown Herald.

"That baby, I admit, is as good as wheat." remarked a fond parent the other day, "but like wheat it has to be threshed."—Wheeling Leader.

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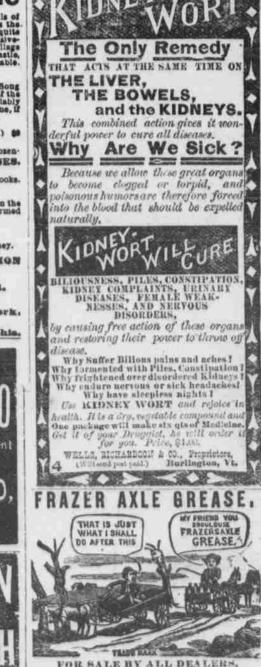
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