

THE RED-HEADED BOY'S BIG BONFIRE

When a young woman has just finished hanging out a perfectly good wash on perilous lines run on pulleys from the back porch of her flat to the telephone pole in the alley, no right-minded person could blame her for losing her temper if a red-headed boy with a wide mouth and the ingenuity of a fiend should start a smudgy bonfire directly below.

The red-headed boy worked in Simms' grocery, one of the stores that occupied the ground floor of the flat building. He was poking the fire as though he enjoyed it when Miss Clancy saw him.

"Say, you, Tommy Herkimer!" Miss Clancy called threateningly. "See what you're doing to my wash!"

Tommy grinned up at her and gave the fire another stirring. Great clouds of smoke and black smudges waivered upward, seeking the chaste whiteness of the Clancy linen.

"Stop it!" Miss Clancy shrieked, shaking one fist in the offender's direction. The flat was small and white, for it was Miss Clancy's mother who had washed the clothes, her pretty daughter's share in the work being the hanging out process. Mrs. Clancy was proud of Sadie's hands just as she was proud of Sadie's crisply curling black hair and blue eyes and the general freshness of her. "Stop it, I say! You're horrid, and if you don't stop it I'll—"

"Yah-h-h!" yelled Tommy, derisively. "I ain't afraid of you, Sadie Clancy! You can't do nothin'!"

Sadie Clancy shot down the one flight of stairs like an angry comet and catapulted toward Tommy. Dropping the broom handle with which he was stirring the fire, Tommy bolted, with Sadie after him. He darted toward the back door of the grocery and everted just as that door filled with the bulk of young Simms himself. Young Simms being Sadie's devoted worshiper, Tommy recognized that here was no safe haven. Indeed, after a breathless word from Sadie, Simms also joined the chase down the alley. As he rushed past one of the delivery wagons he caught his foot in the trailing lines and pitched headlong in the dust.

"Pickles and prunes!" young Simms exploded as he staggered up.

"Oh, did you hurt yourself?" Sadie cried, looking around in horror. Right in her course was the water hydrant and, hitting it, she, too, ornamented the alley pavement.

"Don't you know anything worse than that?" she gasped out furiously as Simms picked her up, roaring. "Coffee cakes and buns! Let me get my hands on him!"

Tommy, who had paused interestedly to view the unexpected gymnastics, was doubled up in mirth. He began to run again when his furious pursuers darted toward him. Spying an open door into the basement under Leigh's furniture store, he dashed in and his pursuers followed. Sadie was in the lead. Rounding some crates of dressers, she saw a human object shrunk up close to the last crate. She grabbed it with a shriek of triumph, to which the object responded with a howl. Young Simms, arriving, also grabbed.

"Gotchu!" the object yelled in terrible glee. "Y'll play tag in my basement and carve initials all over the mahogany, will yer? I'll teach you kids a lesson! I've been a-layin' for yeh and now I've got yeh!"

Leigh, the furniture man, as he spoke was shaking Sadie and young Simms, occasionally knocking their heads together for emphasis. Suddenly the size of Simms seemed to confuse him and he jerked his captives into the light of a gas jet.

"Good land!" Leigh gurgled, releasing his hold. He stared at his neighbors whom he had been shaking.

"Why—why—" stammered Leigh, and sat down meekly. Then he gave a sort of groan and scrambled to his feet. He had sat down in a bucket of varnish.

"Oh-h-h-h!" Sadie wept hysterically, clinging to young Simms. He put his arm around her protectively and jammed it against a nail point that was projecting through one of the uprights in the wall.

"Woo-o-ot!" roared Simms, clasping his wound.

Somewhere in the distance of the basement there was a strangled but demoniac laugh that sounded as though emanating from a red-headed boy with a wide mouth.

"Let him go," said young Simms as he put his arm around Sadie again. "Somehow I don't seem to mind him now—do you, Sadie?"

"He help Mr. Leigh get that varnish off him," said Sadie with very red cheeks. She did not move away from the arm. "Anyhow, ma's taken the clothes in by now!"—Chicago Daily News.

They Never Learn.

Draw poker is a fine game, full of skill and science, and the man who knows what to draw to and when to do it is the fellow who gets the money. Harris Dixon, the author, was explaining one day that every man who makes a practice of trying to fill a four-card flush is doomed to bankruptcy.

"There is no use talking," said Dixon. "Drawing to a four-flush is bad business. I knew an old man down in Mississippi who lost three plantations drawing to them. Two of the plantations he lost by drawing and never filling the flush, and he threw away the third by finally making the flush against a full house."—Popular Magazine.

Spared Money to Feed Her Mind.
An English typist who stated her earnings and expenditures in answer to the London Board of Trade's circular, spent \$2 for eight volumes of Grote's "History of Greece." Her weekly wage was \$6.25. During a year she spent \$5.50 on eleven birthday presents. A girl who earned \$4.25 a week bought pamphlets describing the English poor laws and poor law commission.

Telling the Age of a Horse.

The age of a horse may be judged by the appearance of the teeth because on the upper surface of the incisors a hollow is to be seen in the young tooth, which, not extending through the whole substance, naturally wears out with the wear of the tooth, and as a considerable degree of regularity occurs in the wearing away in all horses, it has been adopted as a general criterion of age.

British North Borneo.

British North Borneo has an area of 31,000 square miles and a population, according to the census of 1911, of 208,183. The European residents number 355, Chinese 26,202, Malays, 1,612, East Indians 5,511 and Filipinos 5,700. The number of natives cannot be more than approximately estimated but their number is placed at about 170,000.

The Draw.

"It's a commercial age," said H. K. Adair, the western detective, apropos of an octogenarian who had been bunced out of \$9,000 by a girl crook of Baltimore. "It's a commercial age," the detective repeated. "In the good old days a man would draw his sword for his love's sake, but now he draws a check."

Rest Periods a Necessity.

The importance of rest periods in school work and of as much fresh air as possible is emphasized by recent scientific investigations, which have shown that the condition of the blood corpuscles in children is far less favorable after mental exertion in school than after hard physical effort.

Kitchen Eraser.

An ordinary blackboard eraser is splendid to keep near the kitchen range. By using it to wipe off the top, the range is kept clean and does not need to be washed or polished but once or twice a week. These erasers can be purchased at a very small cost.—Mother's Magazine.

Roulette Wheel Concealed.

A roulette wheel contained in the handle of a parasol is the latest Parisian novelty. It can be used for gambling at any place or moment. These handles have become very popular. They are of fine workmanship, and generally of gold or silver.

Famous Indian Ghee.

Ghee, which is used as butter in India and which has been known to keep for centuries without getting rancid, is made by boiling butter until all the watery particles and curds have been removed by repeated skimming.

Ready Explanation.

"Judge, I ain't no vagrant. I'm in hard luck now, but I've seen better days." "But this officer says you have been arrested repeatedly." "He must be alludin' to the times when I owned me own automobile."

Hog Easily Identified.

A little neighbor girl, four years old, remarked: "I wonder how God found names for everything. There are mammas and papas, girls, kittens, dogs, boys, and hogs—but then anybody'd know what a hog was."

Too Ominous Beginning.

She—"If a girl proposed to you, you wouldn't dare to refuse her." He—"If a girl had the nerve to propose to me I wouldn't dare marry her."—Boston Transcript.

London Has Immense Chandelier.

The chandelier in the Alhambra music hall in London is said to be one of the largest in the world, having sixty electric lamps of 500-candle power each.

Scaring Mice Away.

To keep mice away, scatter small pieces of camphor in your cupboards and drawers. They greatly dislike the smell of camphor, and will go far away from it.

Husbandly Trait.

"When does your husband find time to do all his reading?" "Usually when I want to tell him something important."

Costly Shortsightedness.

Many a man is spending all his spare cash trying to find a remedy for a digestion that he ruined with candy before he married it.

Weep If You Wish.

There are said to be 1,000,000 homeless cats in Chicago. People whose specialty is long distance sorrow, have our permission to cry their eyes out.

Use for Old Newspapers.

China uses millions of pounds of old newspapers, chiefly British, as wall paper in houses and cottages.

THE NATIONAL VACUUM CLEANER

This Vacuum Cleaner and the News Item for 1 Year for Only \$5.00



LAST CHANCE TO GET A NATIONAL VACUUM CLEANER

There are only a few of these wonderful dustless cleaners remaining.

If you have not already taken advantage of this liberal offer, do not delay in acting.

The first to respond to this last announcement will be the lucky ones.

You need the NATIONAL Vacuum Cleaner because it is the only way you can keep your home perfectly dustless and sanitary.

Doctors say that the clouds of choking, germ-laden dust raised by sweeping and dusting are the cause of contagious diseases so common during the house-cleaning season.

In the NATIONAL you have a reliable Vacuum Cleaner effective protection against dust dangers at a price less than your present cost of broom and sweeper.

The NATIONAL weighs less than 5 pounds. It is easily operated by boy or girl.

The large capacity of the NATIONAL makes it capable of thorough cleaning, through and through.

But to get a NATIONAL Vacuum Cleaner you will have to act promptly.

If you want to take advantage of this splendid offer you will have to act quickly.

One National Vacuum Cleaner, (retail price \$10.50,) and The News Item for one year for the small sum of \$5.00.

List of Jurors, Dec. Term 1912

List of names of persons, together with their occupation and places of residence, drawn as Traverse and Petit Jurors for December Term, commencing on Monday, December 9, 1912.

Names	Occupation	Residence
Avery, Eugene	Farmer	Elkland
Brackman, Charles	Farmer	Fox
Buck, Harvey	Clerk	Davidson
Brown, Charles B.	Farmer	Fox
Cole, Arthur	Laborer	Colley
Cox, Frank	Farmer	Cherry
Cox, Lincoln	Farmer	Cherry
Dohn, Joseph	Farmer	Cherry
Drake, Edward	Laborer	Lopez
Dunlap, Willard	Laborer	Eaglesmere
Dunham, Floyd	Laborer	Lopez
Dickerson, Arthur	Farmer	Fox
Fulmer, Alvin	Farmer	Shrewsbury
Guynor, James	Farmer	Cherry
Gumble, William	Blacksmith	Hillsgrove
Gilligan, Jas. S.	Clerk	Lopez
Gahan, Thomas	Farmer	Cherry
Grailley, Lewis	Farmer	Cherry
Griffith, Harry	Laborer	Lopez
Gorman Geo Justice of Peace		Laporte twp
Hassen, Edward	Laborer	Davidson
Hess, Art	Laborer	Elkland
Hopfer, Charles	Laborer	Davidson
Josat, Rev Titus C	Minister	Dushore
Jennings Calvin B	Merchant	Elkland
Kobbe, Christian	Farmer	Elkland
Kennedy, Thos E	Clerk	Laporte Bor
Lassavage, Stanley	Miner	Bernice
Lang, Joseph	Miner	Lopez
Leonard, William	Farmer	Cherry
Murray, Leo	Laborer	Ringdale
May, William	Miner	Lopez
Morgan, Morris E	Farmer	Fox
McCarroll, John	Farmer	Fox
Mulnix, Avery T	Farmer	Elkland
North, John	Farmer	Cherry
Porter, Geary	Farmer	Fox
Peale, Frederick W	Farmer	Eaglesmere
Richlin, Henry	Farmer	Forks
Randall, John W	Laborer	Forksville B
Rinebold, Elmer	Farmer	Forks twp
Ross, Lewis L	Farmer	Colley
Sweeney, Martin, Sr	Farmer	Cherry
Stout, William	Laborer	Dushore
Scanlin, Frank	Farmer	Forks
Steffather, H H	Carpenter	Lopez
Shaffer John	Farmer	Cherry
Traugh Joseph	Farmer	Laporte twp.

GRAND JURORS

Names	Occupation	Residence
Battin, Dean C	Farmer	Elkland
Bowman Gabriel	Farmer	Colley
Brey, John	Farmer	Hillsgrove
Boyle, Asa	Clerk	Elkland
Battin, Reuben	Farmer	Tox Twp.
Cole, Zachariah	Laborer	Dushore
Cole, J Dean Jus. of Peace		Jamison City
Crossley, Guy	Laborer	Laporte Bor
Dunlap, Correll	Farmer	Hillsgrove
Finan, Patrick	Hotel-keeper	Dushore
Hannon, Edward	Laborer	Bernice
Hamer John	Baker	Dushore
Little, Daniel	Earner	Shrewsbury
Murray, Charles	Liveryman	Bernice
Norton, Lyman	Farmer	Hillsgrove
Orlusk, Lewis	Miner	Bernice
Powers, William	Retiree	Dushore
Rogers, John W	Farmer	Forks twp.
Sherman Clint	Farmer	Forks twp.
Shovelin, John	Foreman	Lopez
Schock, William	Farmer	Lopez
Williams, M. E.	Farmer	Fox
Weaver, Fred J	Farmer	Cherry
White, Ernest	Laborer	Lopez

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Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right

FRENCH PAPERS FOR SALE

Thief With Valuable Historical Documents on His Person Arrested in Madrid.

A French subject has been arrested in Madrid after trying to sell important historical documents stolen, without doubt, from some museum or French official center. The arrest was made by policemen, who had the man under observation, under the pretense of being probable buyers.

They found upon him the ratification of the secret treaty of peace between Louis XIV. and Philip IX. of Spain. This treaty, commonly called the Pyrenees Treaty, was signed in 1659, and terminated the war between France and Spain. In virtue of it Louis married the Infanta Maria Teresa, Philip's daughter.

Another document contains the marriage articles, in which the princess renounces all rights to the crown of Spain. Finally, the man exhibited a parchment signed by the emperor, Charles V. The documents present all the appearance of authenticity. The two former bear royal seals and the signatures of Maria Teresa, Louis XIV. and Philip IV.

The prisoner's body is covered with tattooed designs in colors, beautifully executed. He has deep scars on both his wrists.

New School Sanitation Plan.

A new idea in school sanitation has been tested by the medical director of Dartmouth college. About five years ago he began making bacteriologic examinations of the air of the college halls and recitation rooms, and soon found a great periodic variation in the number of bacteria colonies that developed on the culture media exposed in the usual shallow open dishes. He then adopted the plan of disinfecting with formaldehyde any room showing more than thirty-five colonies of clusters of any kind of bacteria to a dish. This custom has been continued, and the result has been quite striking, the cases of epidemic colds, influenza and bronchitis, among the students having been reduced about one-half.

An Applied Definition.

E. Trowbridge Dana, grandson of the poet Longfellow, who was recently married in Cambridge with a beautiful ritual of his own composition, said the other day to a reporter:

"If all couples gave to marriage the profound thought and reverence that my wife and I give to it there would be fewer mismatches.

"The average married pair, it sometimes seems to me, are like the Blinkses.

"Pa," said little Tommy Blinks one day, 'what's a weapon?'"

"A weapon, my son," Blinks answered, 'is something to fight with.'"

"Then, pa," said little Tommy, 'is ma your weapon?'"

Williamport & North Branch Railroad TIME TABLE.

In effect Sept. 9, 1912.

Read down

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5:20	4:15	12:45	10:17	7:43	Halls.....	6:25	7:35
5:25	4:19	12:50	10:20	7:46	Penndale.....	6:20	7:30
5:28	4:22	12:53	10:22	7:48	Chippewa.....	6:17	7:27
5:35	4:28	1:00	10:30	7:55	Hughesville.....	6:10	7:20
4:34	1:07	1:00	Pieture Rocks	8:00	.....	9:24	11:33
4:39	1:13	1:05	Essick.....	8:05	.....	9:18	11:28
4:44	1:18	1:10	Glen Mawr.....	8:10	.....	9:12	11:23
4:52	1:26	1:18	Strawbridge.....	8:19	.....	9:04	11:15
.....	1:32	.....	Beech Glen.....	8:24	.....	8:58	11:07
4:58	1:34	1:24	Muncy Valley.....	8:30	.....	8:53	11:02
5:05	1:40	1:32	Sonestown.....	8:35	.....	8:46	10:47
5:20	.....	1:40	Nordmont.....	8:45	.....	8:21	10:50
5:36	.....	1:49	Mokoma.....	8:50	.....	8:19	10:28
5:38	.....	1:50	Laporte.....	8:55	.....	8:06	10:13
5:50	.....	1:52	Risingdale.....	9:00	.....	7:58	10:03
6:08	.....	1:55	Bernice Jc.....	9:05	.....	7:55	10:00
6:22	.....	1:58	Satterfield.....	9:10	.....	7:50	10:00
7:24	.....	2:00	Towanda.....	10:55	.....	6:45	.....

Read up

S. D. TOWNSEND, Gen. Manager, Hughesville

H. A. KNIPE, General Supt.

Roll Call.

Bernice and Mildred	Absent
Sonestown	Absent
Muncy Valley	Present
Ricketts	Absent
Nordmont	Present
Forkville	Absent
Hillsgrove	Absent
Eagles Mere	Absent

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His Best Friend.
Many great writers besides Cicero and Emerson have written on friendship, but it may be doubted whether any essayist had a more definite idea than a small boy who was recently asked what he meant by "best friend." "My best friend," he replied, "is a person who knows me and yet likes me."—Collier's.

No Souls for Saving.
Souls are now practically extinct. One occasionally hears of them at revival meetings and the like, but they have entirely disappeared from cities, summer resorts, shopping districts, financial centers and other places where humans are wont to gather habitually.—Life.

Not a Time to Be Hasty.
"Father, our daughter is being courted by a poet." "Is that so, mother; I'll kick him out." "Not so fast. Investigate first and find out whether he works for a magazine or for a breakfast food factory."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Looking After the Nickel.
Alfred, aged five, had intently watched his mother place a coin in a telephone box and speak to his father. When the latter returned home in the evening Alfred eagerly inquired: "Did you catch the nickel mamma put in the little black box, papa?"

Use for Adhesive Plaster.
If a pane of glass in the window is cracked and you fear the winter's blast will blow it in over night, or a summer's rain and wind storm will shatter the remainder, patch it up with adhesive plaster until the glazier can put in a new pane.

COLE'S Up-To-Date HARDWARE

WHEN you think of buying hardware you naturally ask yourself this question: "What kind of stove, washer, cutlery, gun,"—or whatever it may be—"shall I buy? Don't ponder over these things nor spend your time looking at pictures in "cheap goods" mail-order catalogs. Come to our store and let us solve the problem. We have a fine variety of standard goods to choose from. When you think of **HARDWARE** think of **COLE'S**.

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