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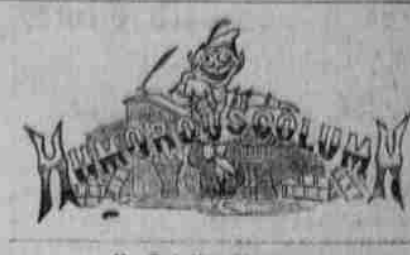
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He Bet the Showman.

The other day a show came to Little Rock and was shamefully imposed upon by Uncle Isom. While standing near the tent he saw a crowd of low-spirited boys grieving on account of financial depression.

"Does yer youngsters wanten go inter der show?" he asked.

The boys responded in noisy chorus.

"Well, come on, den, I uster be a chile myself, an' unlike mos' ob men, I hain't forgot hit. Count dese boys," he added, addressing the doorkeeper.

The man began counting, and by the time the boys had passed in, Isom was walking around, talking to acquaintances from the plantations.

"Here," said the showman, "give me twenty tickets."

"What for? Does yer think me a lottery agent?"

"You passed in twenty boys, and I want the tickets or the money."

"I doan owe yer no tickets, an' I doan owe yer no money. I didn't tell yer ter pass de boys in. I said count 'em. I see always heard dat showmen is good in 'rithmetic an' I wanted to satisfy myself. Yer say dat dar was twenty boys. I doan 'spite yer word, case I ain't no mathmetician. S'posen I take a lot ob boys ter der cashier ob a bank an' axes him ter count 'em' does dat signify dat de cashier is gwine ter pass 'em inter de money room? No sah. Go back to yer tent, for I see a crowd goin' in."

The showman, remembering that he had left the entrance unguarded, turned when Isom walked away with an agility rarely exhibited by an old man.

Couldn't Recommend it.

A tall lame negro has been in the habit for a year past of calling at a Michigan avenue grocery and begging a few potatoes, a bit of codfish or anything else likely to be given him. The other day, the grocer took a flour sack and made up a mixture of sand, and when the negro came around he was almost pulverized to hear the grocer say:

"Now, Sam, if you won't come here again for three months you can shoulder that sack and take it home."

"Am you in earnest, boss?"

"Yes, I mean what I say."

"Wall I reckon I'd better cotch on to dat chance, an' may de Lawd bress you fur a hundred yars to come!"

He shouldered the sack and walked off and was not seen again for three days. Then he entered the store with the remark:

"Say, boss, I don't mean to come back only I want to ax a question."

"Go ahead."

"It's about dat flour you gin me. De ole woman an' me doan't take the same view of it. I hold dat it am a new way of grindin' up wheat, an' she says it am new process fur usin' up gravel banks. Kin you frow any light on de subject?"

"It's a new brand of my own," replied the grocer. "The wheat was raised on sandy soil. Can you recommend it?"

"N—not 'zactly, sah, but if you could change wild me fur a peck of beans raised on a hill-side, an' put de ole trees an' stumps an' stones in one bag an' put de beans in anodere, it would save a heap o' argument in de family."

He read in a newspaper paragraph the statement that "The child is father to the man," and straightway went and asked his mother if that was true?

"Yes, my son," she answered, "it may seem a little strange to you, but it is true."

"Well, mamma," responded the inquisitive youth, "why is it if I'm papa's father that he always licks me and I never lick him?"

"I say, Clem," cried two disputing darkies, appealing for decision to a sable umpire, "which word is right—dizactly or dezactly?" The sable monarch reflected for a moment, and then with a look of wisdom, said, "I can't tell prezactly."

"Why did you leave your boarding place?" asked a lawyer of a dishonest witness in a burglar trial. "Because I couldn't take it with me," was the frank reply.

Susan B. Anthony wants the name of the Pullman cars altered either to Pull-man-and-woman or Pull-irrespective-of-sex-cars.

"This apple is pretty well worn out," said a five-year-old, as she finished eating and was about to throw away the core. Fact.

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