

girl. After that scrape the old man told

the boy that he had no objection to inno-cent jokes, such as would not bring re-

proach upon him, and as long as the boy

confined himself to jokes that would

simply cause pleasant laughter and not

cause the finger of scorn to be pointed

at a parent he would be the last one to

kick. So the boy has been for three

weeks trying to think of some innocent joke to play on his father.

aroni and have seen the boy's struggle to

keep from laughing they would have had

more fun than they would at a circus.

First the old delegate attempted to cut

the macaroni into small pieces, and fail-

ing he remarked that it was not cooked enough. The boy said his macaroni was

cooked too tender, and that his father's

teeth were so poor that he would have to

eat soup entirely pretty soon. The old

man said, "Never you mind my teeth, young man," and decided that he would

not complain of anything again. He took

up a couple of pieces of rubber and one

piece of macaroni on a fork and put them

in his mouth. The macaroni dissolved

easy enough and went down perfectly

easy, but the flat macaroni was too much

He chewed on it for a minute or two

and talked about the weather in order

that none of the family should see that

he was in trouble, and when he found

that the macaroni would not go down

he called their attention to something out of the window and took the rub

under the edge of his plate. He was more than half convinced that his teeth were played out, but went on eating something else for awhile, and finally he thought he would just chance the maca-

took the rubber macaroni from his mouth

and laid it on his plate, and he and his

saw it was rubber hose and told the old

man. He was mad and glad at the same

time—glad because he had found that his

and was put on the confessional and told

strokes of the piece of clapboard would

clothes wingers down me next, eh? Put some gravy on a rubber overcoat proba-

bly and serve it to me for salad. Try piece of overshoe with a bone in it for

my beefsteak likely. Give your poor old

father a slice of rubber bib in place of

tripe tomorrow, I expect. Boil mea rubber water bag for apple dumplings pret-ty soon if I don't look out. There! You

go and split the kindling wood." "Twas ever thus. A boy can't have any fun

CHAPTER III. THE BAD BOY'S FOURTH OF JULY.

"How long do you think it will be be-

fore your father will be able to come

down to the office?" asked the druggist

of the bad boy as he was buying some ar-nica and court plaster.

"Oh, the doc says he could come down

now if he would on some street where

there were no horses to scare," said the boy as he bought some gum. "But he

The druggist told him how the court plaster worked and then asked him if his Pa couldn't ride down town.

"Ride down? Well, I guess nix. He would have to sit down if he rode down

town, and Pa is no setter this trip. He is a pointer. That's where the pinwheel

"Well, how did it all happen?" asked the druggist as he wrapped a yellow

paper over the bottle of arnica and twist-ed the ends and then helped the boy stick the strip of court plaster on his

"Nobody knows how it happened but

court plaster and stick it on?"

THE BOY WITH A LAME BACK. A young fellow who is pretty smart on corner for two hours waiting for the general principles and who is always in good humor went into a store the other morning limping and seemed to be broke up generally. The proprietor asked him if he wouldn't sit down, and he said he couldn't very well, as his back was lame. He seemed discouraged, and the proprietor asked him what was the matter. "Well," said he as he put his hand on his pistol pocket and groaned, "there is no encouragement for a boy to have any fun nowadays. If a boy tries to play an innocent joke, he gets kicked all over the honse." The storekeeper asked him what

had happened to disturb his hilarity. He said he had played a joke on his fa-ther and had been limping ever since.

"You see, I thought the old man was a little spry. You know he is no spring chicken yourself, and though his eyes are not what they used to be yet he can see a pretty girl further than I can. The other day I wrote a note in a fine hand and addressed it to him, asking him to meet me on the corner of Wisconsin and Milwaukee streets at 7:30 on Saturday evenive, and signed the name of 'Daisy' to it. At supper time Pa he was all over the bald spot, and he got on some clean cuffs and said he was going to the consistory to initiate some candidates from the country, and he might not be in till late. He didn't eat much supper and hurried off with my umbrella. I winked at Ma, but didn't say anything. At 7:30 I went down town, and he was standing there by the postoffice corner in a dark place. I went by him and said, 'Hello, Pa, what are you doing there?' He said he was waiting for a man. I went down street, and pretty soon I went up on the other corner by Chapman's, and he was standing there. You see, he didn't know what corner 'Daisy' was going to be on and had to cover all



I saluted him and asked him if he hadn't found his man yet, and he said no; the man was a little late. . It is a meen boy that won't speak to his Pa

t turned and came back, and he was standing there in the doorway, and I said: Pa, you will catch cold if you stand around waiting for a man. You go down to the consistory and let me lay for the man.' Pa said, 'Never you mind; you go about your business, and I will attend to the man.'

"Well, when a boy's Pa tells him to never you mind and looks spunky, my experience is that a boy wants to go right thought he would just chance the maca-roni once more for luck, and he mowed away another forkful in his mouth. It was the same old story. He chewed like a seminary girl chewing gum, and his eyes stuck out, and his face became red, and his wife looked at him as though away from there, and I went down street. I thought I would cross over and go up the other side and see how long he would stay. There was a girl or two going up of me, and I see a man hurrying across from the drug store to Van Pelt's and his wire looked at him as though afraid he was going to die of apoplexy, and finally the servant girl burst out laughing and went out of the room with her apron stuffed in her mouth, and the boy felt as though it was unhealthy to corner. It was Pa, and as the girls went along and never looked around Pa looked mad and stepped into the doorway. It was about 8 o'clock then, and Pa was tired, and I felt sorry for him, and I went up to him and asked him for half a dollar to go to the Academy. I never knew him to shell out so freely and so quick. He gave me a dollar, and I told him I would go and get it changed and bring him back the half a dollar, but he said I needn't mind the change. It is awful mean of a boy that has always been treated well to play it on his Pa that way, and I felt make any impression on it, and then she

"As I turned the corner and saw him standing there shivering, waiting for the man, my conscience troubled me, and I teeth were not to blame and mad betold a policeman to go and tell Pa that cause the grocer had sold him boarding Daisy had been suddenly taken with house macaroni. Then the girl came in worms and would not be there that evening. I peeked around the corner, and Pa and the policeman went off to get a drink. I was glad they did, 'cause Pa needed it after standing around so long. Well, when I went home, the joke was so good I told Ma about it, and she was mad.

and was put on the confessional and told all, and presently there was a sound of revelry by night in the wood shed, and the still, small voice was saying: "Oh, Pa, don't. You said you didn't care for innocent jokes. Oh!"

And then the old man between the cuess she was mad at me for treating way. I heard Pa come home say: "Feed your father a hose cart next, bout 11 o'clock, and Ma was real kind won't ye? Be firing car springs and

they were just like chunks of ice.

The asked him how many they initiated in the consistory, and he said six, and then she asked him if they initiated Daisy in the consistory, and pretty soon I heard Pa snoring. In the morning he took me into the basement and gave me the hardest talking to that I ever had with a bed slat. He said he knew that I wrote that note all the time, and he

thought he would pretend that he was looking for 'Daisy' just to fool me.
"It don't look reasonable that a man would catch epizootic and rheumatism just to fool his boy, does it? What did he give me the dollar for? Ma and Pa don't seem to call each other pet any more, and as for me they both look at me as though I was a hard citizen. I am going to Missouri to take Jesse James' place. There is no encouragement for a boy here. Well, good morning. If Pa comes in here asking for me, tell him that you saw an express wagon going to the morgue with the remains of a pretty boy who acted as though he died from boy who acted as though he died from concussion of a bed slat on the pistol pocket. That will make Pa feel sorry. Oh, he has got the awfulest cold,

And the boy limped out to separate a couple of dogs that were fighting.

THE BAD BOY AT WORK AGAIN. Of course all boys are not full of tricks, but the best of them are. That is, those who are the readiest to play innocent jokes and who are continually looking for chances to make Rome howl are the most apt to turn out to be first class business men. There is a boy in the Seventh Pa, and when I come near to ask him ward who is so full of fun that some about it he feels around his nightshirt. mess men. There is a boy in the Seventh ward who is so full of fun that sometimes it makes him ache. He is the same where his pistol pocket would be if it was pants he had on and tells me to be was pants he had on and tells me to some hear to lead the banisters. Ma said something about the banisters. Ma said something about the banisters. Ma said something about heavens and earth, and where is the hustoness it makes him ache. He is the same where his pistol pocket would be if it say, and a lot of things I couldn't hear, and when I come hear to lead this pightshirt heavens and earth, and where is the hustoness are the hustoness and earth, and where is the hustoness and earth, and where is the hustoness and earth, and where is the hustoness are the hustoness and earth, and where is the hustoness are the hustoness and earth, and where is the hustoness are the hustoness are the hustoness and earth, and where is the hustoness are the husto

leave his sight forever, and I leave, too, quick. You see, he is afraid I will get hurt every Fourth of July, and he told me if I wouldn't fire a firecracker all day he would let me get \$4 worth of nice fireworks, and he would fire them off for me in the evening in the back yard. I promised, and he gave me the money, and I bought a dandy lot of fireworks, and don't you forget it. I had a lot of rockets and roman candles, and six pinwheels, and a lot of nigger chasers, and some of these cannon firecrackers, and torpedoes, and a box of parlor matches. I took them home and put the package in our big stuffed chair and put a newspaper over them.

talked for two hours.

to see if the coast was clear.

"Oh, Isuppose he is a brave man." said

union he wore a veteran badge and talked

"Suffered nothing," remarked the boy

with a sneer, "unless they suffered from

the peach brandy and leather pies Pa sold

them. Pa was a sutler—that's the kind

"What makes you think your Pa is a

coward?" asked the grocer as he saw the

boy slipping some sweet crackers into his

"Well, my chum and me tried him

last night, and he is so sick this morning

that he can't get up. You see, since the

burglars got into Magie's Pa has been

telling what he would do if the burglars

got into our house. He said he would

jump out of bed and knock one senseless with his fist and throw the other over the

banister. I told my chum Pa was a cow-

ard, and we fixed up like burglars, with

masks on, and I had Pa's long hunting-

boots on, and we pulled caps down over

our eyes and looked fit to frighten a po-

"I took a shawl strap and was strapping

ing the war."



The old man is getting a little near sighted, and his teeth are not as good as they used to be, but the old man will not admit it. Nothing that anybody can say can make him own up that his eyesight is failing or that his teeth are poor, and he would bet \$100 that he could see as far as ever. The boy knew the failing "Pa always takes a nap in that stuffed and made up his mind to demonstrate to chair after dinner, and he went into the the old man that he was rapidly getting sitting room, and I heard him driving off his base. The old person is very fond our poodle dog out of the chair and heard him ask the dog what he was of macaroni and eats it about three times a week. The other day the boy was in a a-chewing, and just then the explosion drug store and noticed in a showcase a took place, and we all rushed in there. lot of small rubber hose about the size tell you what I honestly think. I think of sticks of macaroni, such as is used on that dog was chewing that box of parlor nursing bottles and other rubber utensils. matches-this kind that pop so when It was white and nice, and the boy's mind you step on them. Pa was just going to was made up at once. He bought a yard set down when the whole air was filled of it and took it home. When the macawith dog and Pa and rockets and everyroni was cooked and ready to be served, thing. When I got in there, Pa had a he hired the table girl to help him play sofa pillow trying to put the dog out, it on the old man. They took a pair of and in the meantime Pa's linen pants shears and cut the rubber hose in pieces were afire. I grabbed a pail of this inabout the same length as the pieces of digo water that they had been rinsing boiled macaroni and put them in a saucer clothes with and throwed it on Pa, or with a little macaroni over the rubber there wouldn't have been a place on him pipes and placed the dish at the old man's bigger'n a sixpence that wasn't burnt, and then he threw a camp chair at me and told me to go to Gehenna. Ma says Well, we suppose if 10,000 people could have had reserve seats and seen the old man struggle with the india rubber macthat's the new hell they have got up in the revised edition of the Bible for bad

> and a rocket got into his white vest. The scene beggared description, like the "A nigger chaser got after Ma and treed her on top of the sofa, and another one took after a girl that Ma invited to dinner and burnt one of her stockings so she had to wear one of Ma's stockings. a good deal too big for her, home. After things got a little quiet, and we opened the doors and windows to let out the smoke and the smell of burnt dog hair and Pa's whiskers, the big firecrackers began to go off, and a policeman came to the door and asked what was the matter. and Pa told him to go along with me to Gehenna, but I don't want to go with a policeman. It would give me dead away. Well, there was nobody hurt much but the dog and Pa. I felt awful sorry for the dog. He hasn't got hair enough to cover hisself. Pa didn't have much hair anyway, except by the ears, but he thought a good deal of his whiskers, 'cause they wasn't very gray. Say, couldn't you send this anarchy up to the house? If I go up there, Pa will say I am

boys. When Pa's pants were out, his

coattail blazed up, and a roman candle

was firing blue and red balls at his legs,

see me."

And the boy went out to pick up some squib firecrackers that had failed to ex-plode in front of the drug store.

the damest fool on record. This is the

brating. I am going to work in a glue factory where nobody will ever come to

THE BAD BOY'S MA COMES HOME. "When is your Ma coming back?" asked found him standing on the sidewalk when the grocery was opened in the morning, taking some pieces of brick out

of his coattail pockets.

"Oh, she got back at midnight last night," said the boy as he eat a few blueberries out of a case. "That's what makes me up so early. Pa has been kicking at these pieces of brick with his bare feet, and when I came away he had his toes in his hand and was trying to go back up stairs on one foot. Pa haint got

the grocery man as he looked at the in-nocent face of the boy. "You are always making your parents some trouble, and it is a wonder to me they don't send you to some reform school. What deviltry were you up to last night to get kicked this morning?"

"No deviltry, just a little fun. You see, Ma went to Chicago to stay a week, and she got tired and telegraphed she would be home last night, and Pa was down town, and I forgot to give him the dispatch, and after he went to bed me and a chum of mine thought we would



"He tried to stab me with his big toe nail." "You see, my chum has got a sister about as big as Ma, and we hooked some of her clothes, and after Pa got to snorslippers with blue stockings down in front of the rocking chair beside Pa's boots, and a red corset on a chair, and my chum's sister's best black silk dress on another chair, and a hat with a white feather on on the bureau, and some frizzes on the gas bracket, and everything we could find that belonged to a girl in my chum's sister's room. Oh, we got a red parasol, too, and left it right in

"Well, when I looked at the layou and heard Pa snoring, I thought I should die. You see, Ma knows Pa is a darn good feller, but she is easily excited. My chum slept with me that night, and when we heard the doorbell ring I stuffed a pillow in my mouth. There was nobody to meet Ma at the depot, and she hired a hack and came right up. No-body heard the bell but me, and I had to go down and let Ma in. She was pretty hot, now, you bet, at not being met at the

depot. "'Where's your father?' said she s she began to go up stairs. "I told her I guessed Pa had gone to sleep by this time, but I heard a good Then I slipped up stairs and looked over

thing, and the door stammed, and they liceman. I took Pa's meerscham pipe case and tied a little piece of ice over the "I s'pose they finally layed it to me, end the stem goes in, and after Pa and as they always do, 'cause Pa called me Ma was asleep we went in the room, and very early this morning, and when I I put the cold muzzle of the ice revolver came down stairs he came out in the to Pa's temple, and when he woke up I hall, and his face was redder'n a beet, told him if he moved a muscle or said a and he tried to stab me with his big toe word I would spatter the wall and the nail, and if it hadn't been for these counterpane with his brains. He closed pieces of brick he would have hurt my his eyes and began to pray. Then I stood feelings. I see they had my chum's sis- off and told him to hold up his hands ter's clothes all pinned up in a newspa-per, and I s'pose when I go back I shall have to carry them home, and then she held up his hands and sat up in bed and sweat and trembled and told us the will be down on me. I'll tell you what, I change was in his left hand pants pockhave got a good notion to take some shoe-maker's wax and stick my chum on my bureau drawer in the cuff box, and my back and travel with a circus as a double chum went and got them. "Pa shook so the bed fairly squeaked. headed boy from Borneo. A fellow could

have more fun and not get kicked all and I told him I was a good notion to shoot a few holes in him just for fun, And the boy sampled some strawber- and he cried and said, 'Please, Mr. Burries in a case in front of the store and glar, take all I have got, but spare a poor went down the street whistling for his old man's life, who never did any harm! chum, who was looking out of an alley Then I told him to lay down on his stomach and pull the clothes over his head and stick his feet over the footboard, and for a bachelor. Oh, thunder, I got onto he did it, and I took a shawl strap and HIS PA IS A DARN COWARD.

Was strapping his feet together, and he troduced to some of the girls, and Saturwas scared, I tell you. It would have day evening he danced till the cows come man," said the bad boy to the grocer as been all right if Ma hadn't woke up. Pa home. At home he is awful fraid of he was trying a new can opener on a tin | trembled so Ma woke up and thought he biscuit box in the grocery, while the gro- had the ager, and my chum turned up a draft, but the water just poured off'n cer was putting up some canned goods the light to see how much there was in for the boy, who said the goods were for Ma's purse, and Ma see me and asked me the folks to use at a picnic, but which what I was doing, and I told her I was a were to be taken out camping by the boy burglar, robbing the house. "I don't know whether Ma tumbled to

the racket or not, but she threw a pillow

the grocer as he charged the goods to the at me and said, 'Get out of here, or I'll boy's father. "Your Pa is called a matake you across my knee,' and she got up, jor, and you know at the time of the reand we run. She followed us to my room and took Pa's jointed fishpole and mauled to the boys about how they suffered dur- us both until I don't want any more burgling, and my chum says he will never speak to me again. I didn't think Ma had so much sand. She is brave as a lion, and Pa is a regular squaw. Pa sent for me to come to his room this morning, of a veteran he was—and he is a coward." but I ain't well and am going out to Pewaukee to camp out till the burglar scare is over. If Pa comes around here talking about war times and how he faced the enemy on many a well fought field, you ask him if he ever threw any burglars down a banister. He is a frod, Pa is, but Ma would make a good chief of police, and don't you let it escape you." And the boy took his canned ham and him, but the next morning he talked to lobster, and tucking some crackers inside the bosom of his blue flannel shirt started for Pewaukee, while the grocer looked at him as though he was a hard citizen.

HE IS TOO HEALTHY. trouble." said the grocery man to the bad would get drowned, and he said if I went boy as a policeman came along leading home there was nothing there too good him by the ear, the boy having an empty for me, and so my chum and me got to champagne bottle in one hand and a firing bottles of champagne, and he hit black eye. "What has he been doing, me in the eye with a cork, and I drove Mr. Policeman?" asked the grocery man him out doers and was just going to as the policeman halted with the boy in shell his earthworks when the police-

"Well, I was going by a house up here a black eye?" when this kid opened the door with a quart bottle of champagne, and he cut cure it when he got home. "What do the wire and fired the cork at another you think your Pa's object was in passboy, and the champagne went all over ing himself off for a single man at Occthe sidewalk, and some of it went on nomowoc," asked the grocery man as he me, and I knew there was something charged up the cucumber to the boy's fawrong, cause champagne is too expenwrong, there was something there.

"That's what beats me. Oh, I support there." was running the shebang and if I would he does it for his health, the way they all bring him here you would say he was all do when they go to a summer resort, but right. If you say so, I will let him go."

REMEMBER WE GUARANTEE A CURE

The grocery man said he had better let the boy go, as his parents would not like to have their little pet locked up. So the policeman let go his ear, and he threw the empty bottle at a coal wagon, and after the policeman had brashed the champagne off his coat and smelled of his fingers and started off the grocery man turned to the boy, who was peeling a cucumber, and said:

"Now, what kind of a circus have you been having, and what do you mean by destroying wine that way, and where are your folks?"

"Well, I'll tell you. Ma she has got the hay fever and has gone to Lake Su perior to see if she can't stop sneezing and Saturday Pa said he and me would go out to Ocon mowee and stay over sunday and try and recuperate our health. Pa said it would be a good joke for me not to call him Pa, but to act as though I was his younger brother, and we would have a real nice time. "I knowed what he wanted. He is an old masher, that's what's the matter with

his racket in a minute. He was inrheumatiz, and he never sweats or sits in him, and he stood in the door and let girl fan him till I was afraid he would reeze, and just as he was telling a girl from Tennessee, who was joking him about being a nold bach, that he was not sure as he could always hold out a woman hater if he was to be thrown into contact with the charming ladies of the sunny south I pulled his coat and said: Pa, how do you s'pose Ma's hay fever is tonight? I'll bet she is just sneezing the top of her head off.' Wall, sir, you just oughten seen that girl and Pa. Palooked at me as if I was a total stranger and told the porter if that freckled faced bootblack belonged around the house he had better be fired out of the ballroom, and the girl said the disgustin thing, and just before they fired me I told Pa he had better look out or he would sweat

through his liver pad.
"I went to bed, and Pa staid up till the lights went out. He was mad when he went to bed, but he didn't lick me 'cause the people in the next room would hear me. He said I might go back home Sunday night, and he would stay a day or two. He sat around on the veranda a the afternoon talking with the girls, and

hen he would see me coming along he ... uld look cross. He took a girl out boat riding, and when I asked him if I "There, I knew you would get into couldn't go along he said he was afraid ! man collared me. Say, what's good for

The grocery man told him his Pa would

it leaves a boy an orphan, don't it, to have such kitteny parents."

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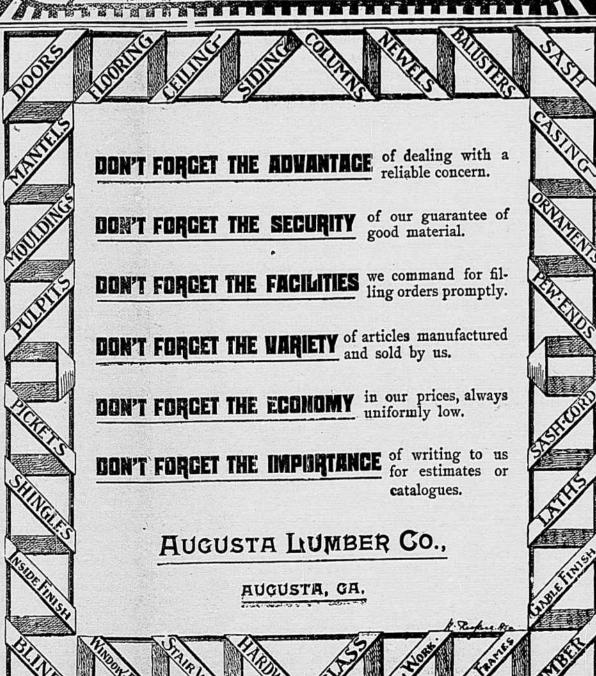
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