

THE TRUNK JUGGLER

BILLY SKAGGLY'S BAGGAGE SMASHING AT PRAIRIE JUNCTION.

How a Broken Handle on One Big Trunk Caused an Accident That Ended His "Bouncing Them Over" Transfer System at That Station.

It has always seemed to me that about the slickest thing in the way of trunk juggling that I ever saw, said an old railroad man, "was something that a baggage man named Billy Skaggly used to do at a place called Prairie Junction on the M. N. and T. road. Billy was running then on the old G., X. and Q., which was at that time an independent line, but practically a branch of the M. N. and T. coming in at Prairie Junction, running along back of the station at an angle and striking the M. N. track 100 feet or more to the west. This inclined a sort of a V shaped open space, like a V lying down flat, between their track on one side and the station and the M. N. track on the other, the widest part being back of the station. This part was planked over from the station to the G. X. track, making a broad platform there, and when trains came in on the G., X. and Q., a man used to roll a baggage truck across this platform to the baggage car, and they'd get the baggage out on it, and then he'd roll it back across the broad platform to the station.

"That's the way they were doing there before Billy came—the way they do it under like circumstances everywhere. But Billy said that was all a waste of time, labor and trouble, and he soon put into operation here a transfer system of his own by which he easily put the trunks over alone. "The trains on the G. X. used to halt with the baggage car right back of the rear door of the station. From the door of the station to the door of the car was maybe 50 feet. Billy could throw a trunk as far as any other man I ever knew—I don't know but what farther. But he couldn't throw a loaded Saratoga that distance, and what he used to do was to bound 'em over. He made fast in the middle of the platform a thick rubber cushion about as big as a doormat.

"Where he learned how to do this or how he got the skill he had I don't know. He may have had a run somewhere before where there was a platform like that to cover, or it may be that he invented the system to meet this situation and then practiced up somewhere with a blank till he could hit the mark, but certain it is that he could stand in the door of his baggage car and throw a trunk in such a manner that it would land with one corner on the bouncing pad and bound up and plumb through the back door of the station every time.

"I was running then on the M. N. on a train that stopped at Prairie Junction, and we used to meet Billy's train on the branch, and often I've looked out down back of the station, where the branch came in, to see Billy bouncing the trunks. After he'd got 'em started he'd keep two in the air all the time, starting one on its arched course through the air from the car door to the pad before the trunkhead had disappeared through the door of the baggage room. And this went along just as nice and comfortable as could be till, as usual, something happened.

"Billy pulled down from the stack in the car one day and rolled along on its end to the car door a big, massive trunk, marked 'Snakes; Handle With Care.' Billy had seen the words 'Handle With Care' before, and he had also heard of trunks being marked 'Snakes,' 'Dynamite' and that sort of thing, and so the marks on this massive trunk did not impress him strongly. He hustled it along to the doorway, seized it by the handle, lifted it and launched it through the air.

"Very likely this was the first trunk that Billy ever missed the mark with, and I don't suppose he'd have missed with this one if the handle hadn't broken just as he let go of it, but it missed the pad by about an inch and a half and came down on the hard platform with a bang that busted that corner wide open. Even as it was, the trunk bounded well up into the air. It had rubber knobs on its corners to protect it and the plank it struck on was springy, but it didn't bound toward the station door, as it rose snakes began dropping out of its busted lower corner.

"A man, who could easily have got out of the way but for the fact that he was sort of fascinated by the sight of the falling snakes, was knocked down by the flying trunk and had his leg broken. This accident broke up Billy's transfer system at Prairie Junction. The super said they were proud of Billy as a baggage tosser, but that that one mishap had cost 'em in one way and another more than the hire of a man to carry the baggage across would cost them for five years, and that's what I knew the bouncing pad had been taken up and the man was back with the baggage truck, rolled up in front of the baggage car door in the old familiar way."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

A Faithful Dog. The Paris Figaro relates a touching souvenir of the poet De Musset, as mentioned in the poet's governess, Mme. Adele Colin Martellet, who has published her memoirs. The poet had a small dog named Marzo. After the poet died, the dog, supposing him absent, continued to await his return at the same hour every evening for a period of seven years, when it also died.

Mme. Martellet's husband took the dog to Anteuil to be buried and found some workmen engaged in digging out a new street. The faithful dog was buried by the men, and the street in which the animal's remains were laid is called the Rue de Musset.

There is a time for all things. The time to take DeWitt's Little Early Risers is when you are suffering from constipation, biliousness, sick-headache, indigestion or other stomach or liver troubles. Evans Pharmacy.

Wooden heads should produce burning thoughts, but they don't. W. M. Gallagher, of Bryan, Pa., says: "For forty years I have tried various cough medicines. One Minute Cough Cure is best of all." It relieves instantly and cures all throat and lung troubles. Evans Pharmacy.

STRANGE CONFESSIONS.

Men Who Have Owned Up to Crimes They Never Committed.

That a man on the rack, with every nerve quivering, with every nerve drawn to its utmost tension, with the pain increasing in intensity and violence, should confess himself the perpetrator of crime is natural enough. The prospect of relief from actual pain is a temptation that blinds the sufferer to the future. But it may seem strange, and is indeed one of the most inexplicable things in human history, that men have been induced by religious exhortations and other means of persuasion to sign their own death warrants by confessing crimes actually never committed. Such in England was the case of John Perry, executed near Campden in 1661, with his mother and brother, for murdering William Harrison, steward for Lady Campden. The testimony against them was chiefly the confession of John Perry himself, but, to the astonishment of all, Harrison, who had been kidnapped and carried off, returned two years after the execution.

In 1813 a man named Russell Colvin, living at Manchester, Vt., disappeared, and suspicions of foul play were entertained. Public opinion attributed his murder to Stephen and Jesse Boorn. Still, as there was no definite ground on which to arrest them, the excitement gradually drew away. In 1819, however, a Mr. Boorn dreamed that he had been murdered by two men, whom he fixed upon as his nephews, Stephen and Jesse. The ghost of the murdered man even specified the place of the murder and the old cellar hole where the mangled body had been thrust. Here a knife and buttons were found, which were identified as belonging to Colvin. On this the men were arrested. Stephen and Colvin had quarreled just before the disappearance of the latter, and Stephen had been seen to strike him with a club and knock him down.

In a short time Jesse confessed that he and Stephen, with their father, after Stephen knocked him down, had carried him to the old cellar and cut his throat with a jackknife. He further stated that the next year they made away with most of the bones of their victim. Stephen, after a time, admitted the truth of Jesse's confession. On this they were convicted and sentenced to be hanged on the 28th of January, 1820. They applied for commutation of the sentence, and as some believed their innocence, advertisements were inserted in various papers for Colvin. Not long afterward a letter appeared in the New York Evening Post, signed by a Mrs. Chadwick and dated Shrewsbury, N. J., Dec. 6, 1819, stating that a slightly deranged man named Russell Colvin had been there five years before. This was generally looked upon as a hoax, but James Whelpley of New York, who knew Colvin, resolved to follow up the clew and actually found Colvin at the house of William Polhemus at Dover, N. J., where he had been since April, 1813.

Mr. Whelpley took him to New York, the common council gave him means to proceed to Vermont, and he arrived at Manchester on the 23d day of December. The whole place was in a state of wild excitement. People gathered in from all the surrounding country to see the dead alive. A cannon was brought out, and Colvin was saluted with a discharge of cannon and small arms. Stephen Boorn fired the first piece. There was much discussion as to the motive for the confession, some attributing it to the effect of imprisonment, a general sort of panic and terror, and others to the injudicious advice and exhortations of a clergyman.—Wonderful Events.

College Girls' Slang.

College girls have a language of their own that is not contained in the ologies and isms of student life. That use of "grand" at Vassar college spread like a contagious disease a few years ago. Everything from a new gown to the award of a fellowship received the magnificent appellation. That was a season of grandiloquence in other respects also, for no entertainment less than a "ball" was ever given at the college. If you went to the senior parlor in response to an invitation to a "ball," you would probably find that some one was serving tea.

Both to Vassar and to Yale belong the word "stunt," but it is used in quite different senses. At Vassar it means a peculiar trick that belongs to a certain individual. At Yale it stands for an idea or plan.

Where girls "dig," Harvard and Yale men "grind" or "bone," where one "frivols" the other "sprees it." Bryn Mawr has a peculiar slang term of its own for the girls who do not enter with a regular class, but come in at the middle of the year. They are known as "half breeds" to the end of their course.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Late Preparation for Wedded Life. A rural schoolmaster had among his scholars three whose ages were respectively 73, 64 and 55 years. "You don't mean to say," said an astonished visitor, "that those old men are going to school for the first time in their lives?"

"That's right," replied the schoolmaster. "They hadn't had time till now! An they wouldn't be at it now only they've made up their minds to get married, and as the gals they air to marry air all good readers and writers they don't want to 'pear ignorant when they settles down for life!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Unfair Advantage. "And by the way, brother," asked the minister who had been called in to smooth the pathway of the expiring pioneer, "were all those bear stories the truth?"

The old man opened his eyes. "Parson," said he, "that's a mighty mean advantage to take of a dyin' man."—Indianapolis Journal.

Condition of New Cotton Crop.

Cotton is in a fairly satisfactory condition in nearly every portion of the belt, and the reports of insect ravages, grassy fields, and injury from drought or excessive rains are less numerous than usual at this season of the year.

In North Carolina planting is nearly completed and chopping about finished, with the weather conditions favorable for the growth of the plant. In South Carolina the cool weather was unfavorable for cotton, which is making slow growth, and in a few localities is infested by lice. Late plantings not up. Sea island cotton has good stands.

In Georgia cotton has been damaged somewhat by worms, and the nights were a little too cool, but with anything like a favorable season cotton will give a good yield. In Florida the greater portion of the State was visited by refreshing showers, which greatly improved cotton.

In Alabama cotton was much benefited by the rains, and, although it is still small, and its growth was somewhat checked by the cool nights, it is clean and well cultivated and looks promising. In Mississippi the nights were too cool in most sections for the satisfactory growth of cotton. Some cotton is being plowed and looks fair; late cotton is very unsatisfactory and much replanting has been done. The stand for early planted has been variously reported but in the main it is good.

In Louisiana, cotton that was planted while there was yet moisture enough in the ground to germinate the seed, is of a healthy color and the fields are free from grass and weeds. The recent copious rains will undoubtedly greatly improve the condition of late planted cotton, and cause seeds that lay dormant to come up.

In Texas cotton has made good growth and is in an excellent state of cultivation, except in some localities over the northern portion of the State, where the ground has been too wet for proper cultivation and the crop is very foul. Planting continues to some extent over the northern portion, while over the southern portion the plant is well advanced and forming squares.

In Arkansas heavy rains in the early part of the week greatly retarded farming operations. Cotton is nearly all planted, except in overflowed districts, where replanting is delayed by wet condition of the ground. Cotton, generally, is up, the stand only fair on account of defective seed and damage by cutworms. In some localities in the southern tier of counties, where weather has been more favorable for the growth and cultivation of the crop, the early planted is beginning to limb and squares are forming. In some sections the grass is very bad.

In Tennessee cotton has not only suffered from the ravages of cutworms, but the cool nights have militated greatly against its normal growth. Bad stands are reported generally throughout a large portion of the district.

In Oklahoma cotton is making normal growth, but on account of delay in getting the crop in the ground, it is generally small and late. The early planted is doing well.

A young man who had been converted at a north Methodist camp-meeting declared that all pride and self-conceit had been taken out of his heart. To prove it he said he would go down in the audience and kiss an old colored woman. As he went down the aisle the old colored woman rose to her feet and said: "Look ahead, man, you may not have no pride, but I is. I ain't gwine to let no man Hobsonize me hear befo' all dese white folks."

The postoffice department has been overwhelmed with applications from communities throughout the country to name their postoffices "Dewey." Already 28 postoffices in as many different States have been given the name of the hero of Manila Bay. This is only four less than those named after Washington. Over 300 other applicants are on the postal files.

Stern Parent—"So you love my daughter, do you? Can you support her, if I consent to the marriage?" College Student—"I hoped that if you considered my suit favorably you could give me a situation where I could work and rise." Stern Parent—"I could." College Student—"O, thank you, I—" Stern Parent—"I can give you a situation where you can work and rise about 5 o'clock in the morning."

"Where," asked the female-suffrage orator, "would man be to-day were it not for woman?" She paused a moment and looked around the hall. "I repeat," she said, "where would man be to-day were it not for woman?" "He'd be in the garden of Eden eating strawberries," answered a voice from the gallery.

A Kansas man not long ago shot a dog by accident, and in showing the owner how it was done he shot the latter. Subsequently in showing the coroner how he had shot the owner of the dog the man with the gun shot the coroner.

The horse has the smallest stomach of any quadruped in proportion to its size.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson.

A well-preserved nervous system can stand an occasional attack of righteous indignation in which considerable strong temper or passion may be manifested, if time is taken to fully "cool off between the heats." It is the continual fretting, grumbling and growling, without intervals of rest, that is wearing and injurious.

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure completely digests food within the stomach and intestines and renders all classes of food capable of being assimilated and converted into strength giving and tissue building substances. Evans Pharmacy.

"Grandpop," he began, turning the leaves of his book, "did your history used to say that the Spaniards settled this country?" "I believe it did, my boy." "Well, the new ones won't say that." "What will they say, Ostand?" "This country settled the Spaniards." Then grandpop gave him a dime.

DeWitt's Little Early Risers act as a faultless pill should, cleansing and reviving the system instead of weakening it. They are mild and sure, small and pleasant to take, and entirely free from objectionable drugs. They assist rather than compel. Evans Pharmacy.

A camel will work seven or eight days without drinking. In this he differs from some men, who will drink seven or eight days without working.

The longest distance ever covered by a cannon ball is said to be fifteen miles, but that probably was several miles within the limit, according to Captain E. L. Zalinski, the retired army officer, who ranks among the highest authorities in the world on munitions of war. On the point of possible range Captain Zalinski says: "Under existing conditions and with the guns, powder and projectiles available, I believe it possible to fire a shot a distance of eighteen miles. The distance will be greater when a power is produced that will exert a uniform pressure on the gun throughout the course of the projectile from breech to muzzle."

Fewer proposals would undoubtedly result in fewer matrimonial failures.

Thomas Thurman, deputy sheriff of Troy, Mo., says if everyone in the United States should discover the virtue of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve for piles, rectal troubles and skin diseases, the demand could not be supplied. Evans Pharmacy.

Most things go wrong because men refuse to take women's advice—so a woman says.

"Good heavens, Willie! you haven't swallowed all those pills, have you?" "No, ma'am. I gave half of 'em to the baby."

A SMALL SPOT MAY BE CANCER.

MOST VIOLENT CASES HAVE APPEARED AT FIRST AS MERE PIMPLES. The greatest care should be given to any little sore, pimple or scratch which shows no disposition to heal under ordinary treatment. No one can tell how soon these will develop into Cancer of the worst type. So many people die from Cancer simply because they do not know just what the disease is; they naturally turn themselves over to the doctors, and are forced to submit to a cruel and dangerous operation—the only treatment which the doctors know for Cancer. The disease promptly returns, however, and is even more violent and destructive than before. Cancer is a deadly poison in the blood, and an operation, plaster, or other external treatment can have no effect whatever upon it. The cure must come from within—the last vestige of poison must be eradicated.

Mr. Wm. Walpole, of Washtown, S. D., says: "A little blotch about the size of a pea came under my left eye, gradually growing larger, from which shooting pains at intervals ran in all directions. I became greatly alarmed and consulted a good doctor, who pronounced it Cancer, and advised that it be cut out, but this I could not consent to. I read in my local paper of a cure effected by S. S. S., and decided to try it. It acted like a charm, the Cancer becoming at first irritated, and then discharging very freely. This gradually grew less and then discontinued altogether, leaving a small scab which soon dropped off, and now only a healthy little scar remains where what threatened to destroy my life once held full sway. Positively the only cure for Cancer is Swift's Specific."

S. S. S. FOR THE BLOOD—because it is the only remedy which can go deep enough to reach the root of the disease and force it out of the system permanently. A surgical operation does not reach the blood—the real seat of the disease—because the blood can not be cut away. Insist upon S. S. S.; nothing else will cure. S. S. S. cures also any case of Scrofula, Eczema, Rheumatism, Contagious Blood, Poison, Ulcers, Sores, or any other form of blood disease. Valuable books on Cancer and Blood Diseases will be mailed free to any address by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Georgia.

ECONOMY!

IS the foundation upon which all prosperity is based. Inevitable success comes to those who act on principles of frugality in every-day life, and mingle wisdom with economy. Cheapness is not economy when not accompanied by good judgment as to values, but through our combination of low prices for the best Goods we know that you will find it to your interest to have your dealings with us. We are now prepared for the demands of the SPRING TRADE with a large Stock of—

DRY GOODS, ORGANIZES, PERCALES, MUSLINS, LAWN, DUCK, LINEN CRASH,

In a profusion of beautiful styles, and the prettiest line of SPRING PRINTS shown anywhere. We ask your inspection of these and a comparison of prices.

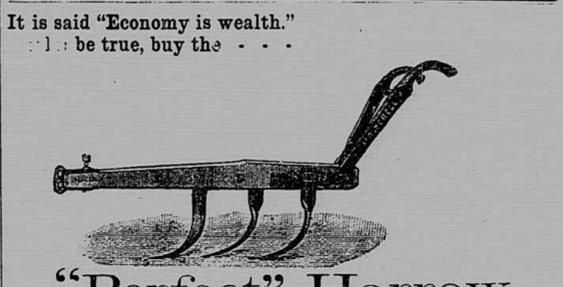
OUR SHOES are wearers. Only reliable lines to be found in our Stock. Ladies' genuine Dongola, Patent Tip, Coin Toe, for a leader, \$1.25, worth \$1.50. Ladies' Soft, Vici Finish, Heel or Spring Heel, Lace or Button, \$1.00. 36 pairs 24 to 4, cost from \$1.50 to \$2.00, if we can fit you, \$1.00. Men's Tan Bals, Patent Tip, Vesting Top, Stylish Shoe for \$2.00. Men's English Ties for \$1.00—this is a bargain and is worth \$1.25.

MEN'S SHIRTS of all descriptions—the best work shirt for 25c. And in the GROCERY line we are fully prepared for all demands. A full stock of FLOUR and MEAT. MOLASSES of all grades, barrels or half-barrels, and TOBACCO. We have lots of customers who think our 10-pound COFFEE is the best thing they can drink. We are reaching out for more trade, and exerting ourselves to get it. Let us make a customer of you.

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The Monarch of Strength is LION COFFEE. (ABSOLUTELY PURE.) Its strength comes from its purity. It is all pure coffee, freshly roasted, and is sold only in one-pound sealed packages. Each package will make 40 cups. The package is sealed at the Mills so that the aroma is never weakened. It has a delicious flavor. Incomparable strength. It is a luxury within the reach of all. Insist on "Lion" Coffee. Never ground nor sold in bulk. None Genuine without Lion's head. If your Grocer does not have Lion Coffee in his store, send us his name and address that we may place it on his shelves. Do not accept imitations. WOODSON'S SPECIE CO., Toledo, Ohio.

LIGHTENS LABOR. Cobwebs about a house are usually the sign that the housewife has more than she can do. The way she goes about it; that all her time and strength are utilized in doing heavy work; that she uses soap in her cleaning. If she would only use GOLD DUST Washing Powder. heavy work would be so lightened that the little things needn't be neglected. Gold Dust gives a woman time to rest, time to visit, time to read, and time to sew. It is much better and cheaper than soap for all cleaning. For greatest economy buy our large package. THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY CHICAGO ST. LOUIS NEW YORK BOSTON



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Every farmer knows the reputation of the JOSH BERRY CRADLE. We have added to its reputation by using the very best Blade to be had—every one guaranteed.

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And, in fact, anything you need in the HARDWARE line. When you need anything in our line give us a call and we will save you money. Yours for business, BROCK BROS.

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