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W. W. BALL,
Proprietor.

LAURENS, S. C., Feb. 18, 1903.

Laurens and Its Newspapers.

THE ADVERTISER would for a few minutes talk shop to its friends and especially business men in Laurens.

There is room in this town for two Laurens for two good county papers. are not saying which is a wart; we have county seat alive in respectability. not examined. But two papers can't live in Clinton. Two can exist in Clinton but existing isn't living. One will

clog to town progress. cery or drygoods store. There is us-

up to the average and above it. There your bass if he, or it, is easy. may be better in South Carolina than either but no town of anything approximating the size of Laurens has two papers which are superior to the two

Assuredly, anybody has a right to estrial. Any man would be entitled to buy a press and commence newspapering here tomorrow without interference from The Herald or THE ADVER-TISER. The race of idiots who are born newspaper men, in their minds, will members will continue to burn their own and other guileless persons' money for some centuries. A man with money and brains and industry, moreover, may some time put a paper here that will choke out The Herald or ADVER-VISER, but he will have a big contract. The Herald is a historic paper in South Carolina. It has been a hard fighter for more than half a century. Hard fighters always have friends that stick hard. The Herald is seasoned and tough and has at least nine lives left. An old newspaper is the most vital institution in the word. A new newspaper is as easily killed as a turkey just hatched.

THE ADVERTISER has lived nearly 18 years, long enough to be as good a life insurance risk as it will ever be. It passed through the teething period in Conway Garlington's day here and it has not needed a dentist since. It is in a better state of health, has a better circulation and more substantial friends than ever before. Nevertheless it is making smaller profits than it made 10 years ago for the simple reasons that the volume of official advertising has dwindled woefully and that the prices obtainable for job work are about 50 per cent less than formerly. In this part of South Cavolina job printing is today [done at] smaller profits than anywhere we know

In the early eighties a second paper was started here. It failed. Laurens was too small. Then came THE AD-VETTISER and like the poor is with you always. In 1896 a third paper ventured out of its shell. It is no more. Then Cures Bheumatism and Catarrh-Medifor the second time a third paper came. It did not fail. It kept going-and went. It was nobody's fault. The tight to the ears of THE ADVERTISER

and The Herald. The lesson is for the people-especially the merchants. They are the coal supply of the papers. They waste money when they buy advertising in experimental newspapers. Advertising is valueless comparatively in a paper that has not lived and lived well for several years. In other words, a of the worst rheumatism or foulest canewspaper ought to have no especial tarrh. Cures when all else fails. Blood Slavin?" and the latter with, "Hello, claims on the public until it has proved Baim (B. B. B.) is composed of pure old sport! Hew's times?" causing them

character and reputation. A paper of standing and influence is read. Its advertisements are appreciated by men and women who have sufficient regard for the paper to pay for it. Fraudulent claims by new newspapers are the commonest kind of frauds known. When a man or company set out to start a newspaper they should expect to lose brought of us amounting to ten dollars deepened in his handsome face, but he went on his way. Geordie despised the money for a long time and should have enough capital to stand the loss. Occaonally the conditions are exceptional, e need for a new paper is sharp and

the rule does not apply. away their money on hopeless papers. They thereby stunt the growth of the old mapers and fail to create new er words the general result is waste.

Now THE ADVACTISER asks the peo-

ple, since the situation is cleared and a rational newspaper basis has been reached, to give the two old papers a show. They have stood by the town through good and evil. They are not getting rich fast. They are not gold mines. They are earning a living, They have their frailties and short comings but we ask the people, the cople who advertise and subscribe, not to encourage in future a newspaper undertaking which could be only a destructive business, unwarranted by the conditions and only a cut throat in com petition.

While the third paper was here this could not be written. It would not have been fair nor generous. That paper had a right to make its effort, its methods were honest and THE ADVER-TISER would fight only by the means that we regarded straight in newspanewspapers. There is room in any per circles. But we hope that the peo- design of nature, as he has with many town with such a county around it as ple for the sake of their town's and county's interests will not soon again sion of an order for mountain pieces There is room, also, for one paper in scatter the limited amount of money by the dozen, together with a check Clinton. Until Clinton trebles in size they are able to expend on newspapers so large that I feared there was some one of her papers will be a wart. We and necessary to keep two papers at the

An Easy Boss.

If Governor Heyward can interest a be a useless and profitless drain on the few strong, carnest and honest men in community and a sorrow to itself. We | Charleston to aggressively "back him speak after long study and wearying up" in efforts to enforce the dispensary experience of the business in all its law in that town, something may be ends and corners. One of the Clinton accomplished. Possibly. Possibly not. papers, we neither know nor care But the real difficulty is that the perwhich, is an object of charity and a sons most interested in the dispensary law are not always most interested in Laurens might support another gro- its enforcement. If the people of South Carolina knew or could know all about ually danger of crowding. Hence woe- the dispensary system it would not be ful failures. But there is some elas- abolished perhaps but somebody's job the promoters of the ball determined ticity always in the mercantile field. A might be abolished. To put the same that it should be a ball rather than a town can, however, spend a certain idea in another way, somebody might dance was taken by the league men as amount in advertising. That amount be abolished out of a job. But the peovaries little except of course with the ple can never know. Now and then in favor of respectability created by town's growth. If the New York Her- you find if you look sharp a mighty ald were printed here, the amount of shrewd, nice, clever fellow among the money spent by Laurens men in adver- dispensary people and as a matter of tising would not be perceptibly in- fact most of the people can be fooled the Black Rock hotel ballroom-indeed creased. Advertising is the main sup- most of the time. From some points of there was no other place-refreshments port of newspapers. Generally speak- view the state of South Carolina is a big suited to the peculiar tastes of league ing newspaper makers can spend on thing but from many the South Carolina their product according to the prices dispensary is a vast deal bigger. Howthey can ask and get for advertising somever, so long as cotton brings nine cents or even eight, the people will get Unless THE ADVERTISER and The along under the administration of the ed by the league. Herald are inferior and unworthy pa- dispensary system just about as well as pers, they are as good as the field here the people of some other States live unwill sustain. We are familiar with the der the administration of the Standard sional gambler, for instance, frankly county papers of the state and we be- Oil trust or this or that great railway considered that the whole town was lieve that the two Laurens papers are corporation. It counts little who is

Board of Trade.

The newly organized Board of Trade of Laurens made a good start by electing Col. T. D. Darlington, a young tablish a newspaper or to make the business man of broad, progressive and aggressive ideas, president. In movements of this character there is everything in having a good head at discovered that a "gun" was decreed the head and THE ADVERTISER be- by British law to be an unnecessary lieves that a happy selection was made adornment of a card table. The manin Mr. Darlington. The other officers ner of his discovery must have been never be totally exterminated and the will give Mr. Darlington zealous assistance and the Laurens Board of Trade will be a real, counting factor in the

members of the Board work they will be interested in the work and in time -perhaps not so long-they will see

Wanted Better Fertilizers.

sold are what they are said to be and we are not suggesting that anybody is from his steel gray eyes, "I'll just take cheated. The difficulty is that the grades offered and bought are too cheap. The farmers could save money by buying fertilizers with more plant food and paying of course higher prices for them. It costs just as much to haul low grades in wagons and freight cars any more that evening, and it took sevas high grades. When good fertilizers eral drinks all round to restore him to are put down, there is a permanent improvement to the land but when tons of ordinary rock with a small proportion of ammuonia and potash are distributed, the permanent improvement is nconsiderable. The freights and cost the pastime of shooting out the lights of distribution are far too small for the present qualities of leftilizers not to be expensive to the thrifty and intelligent farmers.

cine Sent Free. These two diseases are the result of trouble was that three heads couldn't be crowded into two hats and the only available hats were already pulled down muscles, shifting, sharp biting pains, and that tired discouraged feeling of rheumatism, or the hawking, spitting burred eyesight, deafness, sick stomache, noises in the head, mucous throat discharges, decaying teeth, bad breath, belching gas of catarrh, take Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.) It kills the poi-son in the blood which causes these awclaims on the public until it has proved that it is a legitimate business enterprise.

We mean by this that no merchant can be sure that the circulation of a new newspaper has value. Any man can send out free papers. Advertising in free papers is as good as poster advertising and no better. The chief value of a newspaper to the merchant lies in its character and reputation. A paper of

When you need anything in our line remember that we pay the freight to any point in South Carolina on all bills lips grew a little thinner and the color

S. M. & E. H. Wilkes.

Don't try to go through the winter without a heater, but get a Bucks which will pay for itself in a short rehants here are too prone to time in the amount of fuel it will use.

Just arrived some very pretty designs and colors in Brussells Rugs, which we will be glad for you to call

S. M. & E. H. Wilker.

BLACK

CHAPTER VIII. HERE is no doubt in my mind

that nature designed me for a great painter. A railway director interfered with that another of hers, and by the transmis mistake, he determined me to be an illustrator and designer for railway and like publications. I do not like these people ordering "by the dozen."

Why should they not consider an artist's finer feelings? Perhaps they cannot understand them, but they understand fny pictures, and I understand their checks, and there we are quits. But so it came that I remained in Black Rock long enough to witness the breaking of the league.

Looking back upon the events of that night from the midst of gentle and decent surroundings, they now seem strangely unreal, but to me then they

appeared only natural. It was the Good Friday ball that wrecked the league, for the fact that a concession to the new public opinion the league. And when the manager's patronage had been secured-they failed to get Mrs. Mavor's-and it was further announced that, though held in men would be provided, it was felt to be almost a necessity that the league should approve, should indeed welcome, this concession to the public opinion in favor of respectability creat-

There were extreme men on both sides, of course, "Idaho Jack," profesgoing to unmentionable depths of propriety. The organization of the league was regarded by him and by many others as a sad retrograde toward the bondage of the ancient and dying east, and that he could not get drunk when and where he pleased "Idaho," as he was called, regarded as a personal grievance.

But Idaho was never enamored of the social ways of Black Rock. He was shocked and disgusted when he interesting to behold.

It is said that Idaho was industriously pursuing his avocation in Slavin's, with his gun lying upon the card table furtherance of the interests of the city. ed Policeman Jackson, her majesty's Of course THE ADVERTISER has sole representative in the Black Rock been urging the formation of this district. Jackson-"Stonewall Jackson," board for months-years for that mat or "Stonewall," as he was called for ter-and that it has been formed is a obvious reasons-after watching the source of gratification. As long as the game for a few moments gently tapped the pistol and asked what he used this

"I'll show you in two holy minutes if you don't light out," said Idaho, hardresults. Every business man and pro- ly looking up, but very angrily, for the fessional man should join this Board lack was against him. But Jackson and having joined, attend the meetings tapped upon the table and said sweet-

"You're a stranger here. You ought to get a guidebook and post yourself. Now, the boys know I don't interfere with an innocent little game, but there One of the great needs of the farmers is a regulation against playing it with is better fertilizers. The fertilizers guns; so," he added, even more sweetly, but fastening Idaho with a look charge of this," picking up the revolver. "It might go off."

Idaho's rage, great as it was, was quite swallowed up in his amazed disgust at the state of society that would permit such an outrage upon personal liberty. He was quite unable to play articulate speech. The rest of the night was spent in retailing for his instruction stories of the ways of Stonewall Jackson.

Idaho bought a new gun, but he wore It "In his clothes" and used it chiefly in or in picking off the heels from the boys' boots while a stag dance was in progress in Slavin's. But in Stonewall's presence Idaho was a most correct citizen. Stonewall he could understand and appreciate. He was 6 feet 3 and had an eye of unpleasant penetration. But this new feeling in the community for respectability he could neither understand nor endure. The league became the object of his indignant aversion and the league men of his contempt. He had many sympathizers, and frequent were the assaults upon the newly born solutety of Billy Breen and others of the league, but Geordie's watchful care and Mrs. Mavor's steady influence, together with the loyal cooperation of the league men, kept Billy safe so far. Nixon, too, was a marked man. It may be that he carried himself with unnecessary jauntiness toward Slavin and Idaho, saluting the former with, "Awful dry weather, eb, Slavin?" and the latter with, "Hello,

Nixon would not go. However jauntily he might talk, he could not trust himself, as he said, where whisky was lowing, for it got into his nose "like a fishhook into a salmon." He was from Nova Scotia. For like reason Vernou Winton, the young Oxford fellow, would not go. When they chaffed, his went on his way. Geordie despised the "hale hypothick" as a "daft ploy," and the spending of \$5 upon a ticket he considered a "sinfu' waste o' guid sil-

But no one expected Billy to go, although in the last two mouths he had done wonders for his personal appeardone wonders for his personal appearsince and for his position in the social feet in the passageway. Suddenly a

man burst through crying: scale as well. They all knew what a man burst through, crying:
fight he was making and esteemed him; "Let me go! Stand back! I know
accordingly. How well I remember the what I'm about!"
pleased pride in his face when he told It was Nixon, dressed in his best.

me in the afternoon of the committee's urgent request that he should join the orchestra with his cello! It was not simply that his cello was his joy and oride, but he felt it to be a recognition

of his return to respectability. I have often wondered how things combine at times to a man's destruc-Had Mr. Craig not been away at th Landing that week, had Geordie not

been on the night shift, had Mrs. Mavor not been so occupied with the care of her sick child, it may be Billy might have been saved his fall. The anticipation of the ball stirred

Black Rock and the camps with a thrill of expectant delight. Nowadays when I find myself forced to leave my quiet smoke in my studio after dinner at the call of some social engagement which I have failed to elude I groan at my hard lot, and I wonder as I look back and remember the pleasurable anticipation with which I viewed the approaching ball. But I do not wonder now any more than I did then at the eager delight of the men who for seven lays in the week swung their picks up in the dark breasts of the mines or who chopped and sawed among the solitary silences of the great forests. Any break n the long and weary monotony was welcome. What mattered the cost or consequence? To the rudest and least cultured of them the sameness of the ife must have been hard to bear, but what it was to men who had seen life in its most cultured and attractive head and yelling as one possessed. forms I fail to imagine. From the mine, black and foul, to the shack, bare, cheerless and sometimes hideously repulsive, life swung in heart grinding nonotony till the longing for a "big drink" or some other "big break" became too great to bear.

It was well on toward evening when Sandy's four horse team, with a load of men from the woods, came swinging round the curves of the mountain oad and down the street. A gay crowd they were with their bright, brown faces and hearty voices, and in ten minutes the whole street seemed alive with lumbermen-they had faculty of spreading themselves so. After night fell the miners came down 'done up slick," for this was a great occasion, and they must be up to it. The manager appeared in evening dress, but this was voted "too giddy" by the majority.

As Graeme and I passed up to the Black Rock hotel, in the large storeroom of which the ball was to be held. we met old man Nelson, looking very "Going, Nelson, aren't you?" I said.

"Yes," he answered slowly. "I'll drop in, though I don't like the looks of things much.' "What's the matter, Nelson?" asked Graeme cheerily. "There's no funeral

"Perhaps not," replied Nelson, "but wish Mr. Craig were at home." And then he added, "There's Idaho and Slavin together, and you may bet the devil isn't far off." But Graeme laughed at his suspicion,

and we passed on. The orchestra was tuning up. There were two violins, a concertina and the cello. Billy Breen was lovingly fingering his instrument, now and then indulging himself in a little snatch of some air that came to was cleared at once, for Nixon's hornhim out of his happier past. He look-ed perfectly delighted, and as I paused course, was in high favor. In the midst to listen he gave me a proud glance out of his deep, little, blue eyes and went on playing softly to himself. Presenty Shaw came along.

"That's good, Billy," he called out. You've got the trick yet, I see." But Billy only nodded and went on

playing. "Where's Nixon?" I asked. "Gone to bed," said Shaw, "and I am glad of it. He finds that the safest place on pay day afternoon. The boys don't bother him there."

The dancing room was lined on two ides with beer barrels and whisky kegs. At one end the orchestra sat; at the other was a table with refreshments, where the soft drinks might be had. Those who wanted anything else might pass through a short passage

nto the bar just behind. This was evidently a superior kind of ball, for the men kept on their coats and went through the various figures with faces of unnatural solemnity, but the strain upon their feelings was quite apparent, and it became a question now long it could be maintained. As the trips through the passageway became more frequent the dancing grew in vigor and hilerity until by the time supper was announced the stiffness ad sufficiently vanished to give no

further anxiety to the committee. But the committee had other cause for concern, inasmuch as after supper certain of the miners appeared with their conts off and proceeded to "knock the knots out of the floor" in break-down dances of extraordinary energy. These, however, were beguiled into the barroom and "filled up" for safety, for the committee were determined that the respectability of the ball should be preserved to the end. Their reputation was at stake not in Black Rock only, but at the Landing as well, from which most of the ladies had come, and to be shamed in the presence of the Landing people could not be borne. Their difficulties seemed to be increasing, for at this point something seemed to go wrong with the orchestra. The cello appeared to be wandering aimlessly up and down the scale, occasionally picking up with the tune with animation and then dropping it. As Billy saw me approaching he drew himself up with great solemnity, gravely winked at me and said:

"Shlipped a cog, Misther Connor! Mosh hunfortunate! Beauchiful hinstrument, but ships a cog. Mosh hunfortunate!"

And he wagged his little head sagely, playing all the while for dear life, now second and now lead.

Poor Billy! I pitied him, but I thought chiefly of the beautiful, eager face that leaned toward him the night the league was made and of the bright voice that said, "You'll sign with me, Billy?" and it seemed to me a cruel deed to make him lose his grip of life ler," and he warned Billy against and hope, for this is what the pledge "coontenancin' ony sie redeeklus non-meant to him.

> While I was trying to get Billy away to some safe place I heard a great shouting in the direction of the bar,

black clothes, blue shirt, red tie, looking handsome enough, but half drunk An Ancient Foe wildly excited. The "Highland Fling" competition was on at the mo-ment, and Angus Campbell, Lachlan's

brother, was representing the lumber

camps in the contest. Nixon looked on

approvingly for a few moments. Then,

with a quick movement, he selzed the

little highlander, swung him in his

powerful arms clean off the floor and

deposited him gently upon a beer bar-rel. Then be stepped into the cenier of

the room, bowed to the judges and be-

The committee were perplexed, but

after deliberation they decided to hu-

nor the new competitor, especially as

they knew that Nixon with whisky in

Lightly and gracefully he went

through his steps, the men crowding in

from the bar to admire, for Nixon

was famed for his hornpipe. But when

after the hornpipe he proceeded to ex-

ecute a clog dance, garnished with

acrobatic feats, the committee inter-

heard them across the room, he added,

with savage deliberation, "If any man

lays a finger on me, I'll-I'll eat his

He stood for a few moments glaring

round upon the company and then

strode toward the bar, followed by the

crowd, wildly yelling. The ball was

forthwith broken up. I looked around

for Billy, but he was nowhere to be

"There's going to be something of a

"What are you going to do?" I asked.

"Do? Keep myself beautifully out of

In a few moments the crowd came

surging back, headed by Nixon, who

was waving a whisky bottle over his

"Hello!" exclaimed Graeme softly.

"You see Idaho and Slavin and their

pets," he replied. "They've got poor

Nixon in tow. Idaho is rather nasty,'

in this game. I've seen some of Idaho's

ie added, "but I think I'll take a hand

The scene was one quite strange to

me and was wild beyond description.

A hundred men filled the room. Bottles

were passed from hand to hand, and

men drank their fill. Behind the re-

freshment tables stood the hotel man

and his barkeeper, with their coats off

and sleeves rolled up to the shoulder,

passing out bottles and drawing beer

and whisky from two kegs hoisted up

for that purpose. Nixon was in his glo-

ry. It was his night. Every man was

to get drunk at his expense, he pro-

claimed, flinging down bills upon the

table. Near him were some league men

he was treating liberally, and never far

I followed Graeme, not feeling too

new to me, but admiring the cool as-

surance with which he made his way

bottles, but evidently drinking little.

nost disconcerting manner.

passing him a bottle.

had a look of fear, of horror.

in tones intense with scorn:

damn his soul for his money!"

ifting his hat, said solemnly:

voice broken and busky:

"Come on, Nixon! We'll go!"

and boots, with his whip in his hand

as he had come from his ride, stood

Mr. Craig. His face was pallid, and

his dark eyes were blazing with fierce

light. As Nixon stopped, Craig step-

ped forward to him, and, sweeping

his eyes round upon the circle, he said

"You cowards! You get a man

where he's weak! Cowards! You'd

There was a dead silence, and Craig,

"May God forgive you this night's

Then, turning to Nixon and throwing

is arm over his shoulder, he said in

Idaho made a motion as if to stop

aim, but Graeme stepped quickly for-

ward and said sharply, "Make way

there, can't you?" and the crowd fell

back, and we four passed through,

Nixon walking as in a dream, with

Craig's arm about him. Down the

street we went in silence and on to

Craig's shack, where we found old

man Nelson, with the fire blazing and

strong coffee steaming on the stove. It

was he that had told Craig, on his ar

rival from the Landing, of Nixon's

There was nothing of reproach, but

only gentlest pity, in tone and touch as Craig placed the half drunk, dazed

man in his easy chair, took off his

poots, brought him his own slippers

and gave him coffee. Then, as his stu-

por began to overcome him, Craig put

im in his own bed and came forth

"Don't mind, old chap," said Graeme

But Craig looked at him without a

word and, throwing himself into a

chair, put his face in his hands. As we

sat there in slience the door was sud-

denly pushed open, and in walked Abe

Baker, with the words, "Where is Nix-

on?" and we told him where he was.

We were still talking when again a tap

came to the door, and Shaw came in

"Did you hear about Nixon?" he ask-

"But did you hear how they got

As he told us the tale the men stood

It appeared that after the making of

he league the Black Rock hotel man

had bet Idaho a hundred to fifty that

Nixon could not be got to drink before

Easter. All Idaho's schemes had failed,

and now he had only three days in

battering at the door for admission,

persuasion to induce him to go down

to the ball, the glorious success of which was glowingly depicted, but Nixon remained immovable, they

ed. We told him what we knew.

istening, with faces growing hard.

ooking much disturbed.

him?" he asked excitedly.

with a face written over with grief.

bills.

work!

dndly.

I begin to see. Look there!"

"What's up?" I asked.

work before.'

time, so just keep your eyes skinned,"

seen. Graeme touched my arm.

rouble," he replied.

gan a sailor's hornpipe.

out scornfully:

liver cold."

him was unpleasant to cross.

We health and happiness is Scrofulaas ugly as ever since time immemorial. It causes bunches in the neck, disfigures the skin, inflames the mucous membrane, wastes the muscles, weakens the bones, reduces the power of resistance to disease and the capacity for recovery, and develops into consumption.

"A bunch appeared on the left side of my neck. It caused great pain, was lanced, and became a running sore. I went into a general decline. I was persuaded to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and when I had taken six bottles my neck was healed, and I have never had any trouble of the kind since." Mrs. K. T. Snyder, Troy, Ohio.

Hood's Sarsaparilla and Pills

will rid you of it, radically and permanently, as they have rid thousands.

fered. There were cries of "Put him took their departure, baffled and cursout!" and "Let him alone! Go on, Nixing. In two hours they returned drunk on!" And Nixon hurled back into the enough to be dangerous, kicked at the crowd two of the committee who had door in vain, finally gained entrance laid remonstrating hands upon him, through the window, hauled Nixon out and, standing in the open center, cried of bed and, holding a glass of whisky to his lips, bid him drink, but he knock-"Put me out! Put me out! Certainly! ed the glass away, spilling the liquor Help yourselves! Don't mind me!" over himself and the bed. grinding his teeth so that I It was drink or fight, and Nixon was

> ready to fight, but after a parley they had a drink all round and fell to persuasion again. The night was cold, and poor Nixon sat shivering on the edge of his bed. If he would take one drink, they would leave him alone. He need not show himself so stiff. The whisky fumes filled his nostrils. If one drink would get them off, surely that was better than fighting and killing some one or getting killed. He hesitated yielded, drank his glass. They sat about him amiably drinking and lauding him as a fine fellow after all. One more glass before they left; then Nixon rose, dressed himself, drank all that was left of the bottle, put his money in his pocket and came down to the dance wild with his old time madness. reckless of faith and pledge, forgetful of home, wife, babies, his whole being absorbed in one great passion—to drink and drink and drink till he could drink

> no more. Before Shaw had finished his tale Craig's eyes were streaming with tears, and greans of rage and pity broke al ternately from him.

Abe remained speechless for a time not trusting himself, but as he heard Cralg groan, "Oh, the beasts, the he seemed encouraged to let himself loose, and he began swearing with the coolest and most bloodcurdling deliberation.

Craig listened with evident approval, apparently finding complete satisfac tion in Abe's performance, when sud denly he seemed to waken up, caught Abe by the arm and said in a horror stricken voice: "Stop! Stop! God forgive us! We

must not swear like this.' Abe stopped at once and in a sur prised and slightly grieved voice said: "Why, what's the matter with that's tway were Idaho and Slavin passing Ain't that what you wanted?" "Yes, yes. God forgive me! I am

afraid it was," he answered hurriedly, comfortable, for this sort of thing was 'but I must not." "Oh, don't you worry!" went on Abe cheerfully. "I'll look after that part And anyway ain't they the blankest

through the crowd that swaved and yelled and swore and laughed in a blankety blank"— going off again into a roll of curses till Craig, in an agony "Hello!" shouted Nixon as he caught of entreaty, succeeded in arresting the sight of Graeme. "Here you are!" passing him a bottle. "You're a flow of profanity possible to no one but a mountain stage driver. Abo knocker, a double handed front door paused, looking hurt, and asked if they knocker. You polished off old whisky did not deserve everything he was call soak here, old demijohn," pointing to ing down upon them Slavin, "and I'll lay five to one we "Yes, yes," urged Craig, "but that is can lick any blankety blank thieves in

not our business."

the crowd." And he held up a roll of "Well, so I reckoned," replied Abe, recognizing the limitations of the cloth. But Graeme proposed that he should "You ain't used to it, and you can't be give the hornpipe again, and the floor expected to do it, but it just makes me feel good-let out of school like-to operly do 'em up, the blank, blank"-And off he went again. It was only of his dance Nixon stopped short; his under the pressure of Mr. Craig's prayarms dropped to his sides; his face ers and commands that he finally agreed to "hold in, though it's tough." There, before him, in his riding cloak 'What's to be done?" asked Shaw.

"Nothing," answered Craig bitterly. He was exhausted with his long ride from the Landing and broken with bitter disappointment over the ruln of all that he had labored so long to accomplish.

"Nonsense!" sald Graeme. "There's a good deal to do "

It was agreed that Craig should re main with Nixon, while the others of us should gather up what fragments we could find of the broken league. We had just opened the door when we met a man striding up at a great pace. It was Geordie Crawford. "Hae ye seen the lad?" was his salu

tation. No one replied, so I told Geordie of my last sight of Billy in the orchestra.

"An' did ye no' gang aifter him?" he asked in indignant surprise, adding, with some contempt, "Mon, but ye're a feckless buddle!" "Billy gone, too?" sald Shaw. "They

might have let Billy alone. Poor Craig stood in dumb agony Billy's fall seemed more than he could bear. We went out, leaving him heartbroken amid the ruins of his league.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

A Curious State c' Affairs.

You must be very cau ous how you treat your neighbor in Isle of Jersey, for he can have you arrested on the slightest pretext and if he has a grudge against you can bring about such a calamity by simply giving a fictional account of your misconduct to the nearest lawyer. The latter will demand a fine, and should you decline to pay it he will cause you to be thrown into prison to await trial. Then, even if you are acquitted on the ground that the charge is unfounded, you have absolutely no claim against your persecutor, though you may have suffered a couple of months' imprisonment for nothing.-London Tit-Bits.

Eternity. An unconventional preacher undertook to give his hearers a vivid conception of eternity. This is the way he did it: "If a little sparrow were to dip its bill in the Atlantic ocean and take one drop of water and then take one hop a day across the country and put that drop in the Pacific ocean and then hop back to the Atlantic, one hop a day, until the Atlantic was dry as a bone, it wouldn't be sun-up in hades."

which to win his money, and the ball Bad Beginning Makes Quick Ending was his last chance. Here, again, he "So the engagement's off?" was balked, for Nixon, resisting all en-"Yes; she advised him to practice economy, and he started in by getting her an imitation diamond."—Detroit treatles, barred his shack door and went to bed before nightfall, according to his invariable custom on pay days, At midnight some of Idaho's men came

Russians who are religious do not eat which Nixon reluctantly granted. For half an hour they used every art of pigeons because of the sanctity conferred on the dove in the Scriptures.

> Gab is nine points in an argument. Portland Oregonian.

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