

JOHN HENRY ON THE DRUMMERS HE MET

BY GEO. V. HOBART, ("HUGH M'HUGH.")

Dear Bunch: I'm headed for home, but the hurdles are holding me back. I met a whole flock of "the boys" in Rochester yesterday morning, and since most of 'em were making a flying leap for New York, you can believe me it was a swift sound of sports that climbed into one of Mr. Pullman's sleep-wagons and permitted themselves to be yanked over the rails.

A bunch of brisk ones—believe me! There was Charlie Hammond, leading man with the "Kitty, the Kash Girl" Company; David Torrence, first heavy with the melodrama entitled "The Haunted Automobile; or, Who Stole the Muffler?" Frank Westerton, first low sad with the "Crazy-Quilt Burlesques;" Emmett Corrigan, who is lecturing through the provinces on "How to Play Bridge Without Impairing the Tonsils;" Malcolm William, the handsome leading man in the show-business—when completely shaved; William Burress, the Bath-Robe King; Charlie Abbott, who sells that fine Monticello honey-dew, and Arthur Shaw.

Shaw travels for a clothing house in Cincinnati, and they call him Slim because he's getting so fat that every time he turns around he meets himself coming back.

He's all to the good—that boy is!

And such a cut-up!

Slim knows more "look-out!—there's-a-lady-over-there!" stories than any other drummer in the business.

Then there was Nick Dalrymple and Tod Gilpin—two live ones with a full set of sparks flying.

Nick goes after the orders for a hardware house in Columbus, and he knows everybody in the world—bar one family living in Yonkers.

Nick has only one trouble, he will paddle after the ponies.

Whenever he makes a town where there's a poolroom his expense-account gets fat and beefy, and Nick begins to worry for fear he may win something.

He won \$12 in Cleveland once, and he spent \$218 at a boozelogsist's that night getting statistics on how it happened.

Tod Gilpin cuts ice for a match-factory in Newark, and he's the life of a small party.

Tod's main hold is to creep into the "reading-room" of a Rube hotel after the chores are done of an evening and throw salve at the come-ons.

Tod tells them that their town is the brightest spot on the map, and they warm up to him and want to buy him sarsaparilla and root beer.

Then when he gets them stuck on themselves he sells them matches.

"Pipe the gates to quarters and all rubber!" said Slim, about half an hour after the train pulled out.

In the seat ahead of us a somewhat demure-looking Proposition in rainbow rags had been sampling the scenery ever since we started.

We had all given her the glad glance, but she was very much Cold Storage, so we passed it up.

As Slim spoke, the Proposition was joined by a young chap with a loose face, who had been out in the smoking-room working faithfully on one of those pajama panatella cigars—that bite you on the finger if you show the least sign of fear.

Just then the train stopped for a few minutes, and we were put wise



They Call Him Slim.

to the fact that it was an incurable case of bride and groom.

"Oh! Boozey is back to his Birdie!" said the brand-new wife. "Did Boozey like his smoky woky?"

Boozey opened a bunch of grins and sat down, while wife patted his cheek and cooed:

"Is ums glad to get back to ums 'titty wiffy'?"

Dave Torrence and Charlie Hammond began to scream inwardly, with Slim chuckling like a pet porpoise.

"Sweetie mustn't be angry with Petie, but Sweetie is sitting on Petie's 'titty hand!" said the bride, whereupon Malcolm Williams exploded, and Slim began to grab for his breath.

A Dutch brewer and his wife sat right ahead of Boozey and Birdie, and every once in awhile the old hump-nosed woman would beam around and beam benignly over the gold rims at the bride.

"Boozey must snuggly-wuggly up closer to his Coozie and skeeze her 'titty afier—no, no, not her waist! you naughty! naughty!"

The brewer was back at the bride with another gold-rimmed goo-goo, when his wife got nervous and cut in:

"Is id you turn your face to see somedings—yes?" she snapped, and the foam-bulder ducked to the window and began to eat scenery.

Westerton was almost out; Burress was under the seat sparring for wind; Slim was giving an imitation of a coal-barge in a heavy sea, and the rest of the passengers were in various stages from hiccoughs to convulsions.

"Is Boozey comy wif his 'titty weeny teeny Birdie?" chirped the bride.

"Boozey is so happy wif his 'titty weeny wif!" gurgled the husband; "how's my 'titty girly wifly?"

"Oh! she's such a happy-wappy 'titty girly!" giggled the dotty dame, pinching her piggle ear, whereupon the brewer tried to hand the bride another

gasoline gaze, but the old lady caught him with the goods.

"Is id to my face you go behind my back to make goo-goo-goo-goo eyes at somevun—yes?" she growled, and in a minute the brewer's brow was busy with the window pane.

"Sweetie looks at Petie and Sweetie sees that Petie's pretty face is getting sunburned, so it is!" cackled Mrs. Duffy; "and Sweetie has a dood moid to kiss him, too!"

They opened a newspaper, crawled under cover, and began to bite each other on the chin.

"Go as far as you like!" said Slim, then he went down and out.

The man who helped to make Hawken famous had his head out the window watching for an ice-wagon, and Mrs. Brew was industriously



"How's My 'titty Girly Wifly?"

muttering "Du bist ein Narr! Du bist ein Narr!"

Just then the train pulled out and saved our lives.

Dave, Frank, Bill, Slim, Charlie, Malcolm, and I rushed feverishly up to the other end of the car to cool off, and there we landed on the outskirts of a bunch of drummers, who were fanning each other with fairy-tales about the goods they sold.

"I'll back three of the lads in that collection to dream longer than any other drummers on the track."

It's a pipe that they can sell bills to each other all day and never wake up.

A guy named Mutt Dawson was holding forth.

He's a most reckless spendthrift with his words, and the meanest man to the English language I ever listened to.

Mutt was telling them about hypnotizing a John Vanamaker merchant prince in Pikeville, Ind., to the extent of \$200 for open-work socks, farmer's size, and then a chap named Jack Dean sent his balloon up by telling us how he sold the Siegel-Coopers, of Bugspout, Ia., \$300 worth of Panama hats for horses.

The Hot Air association was in full session when Buck Jones caromed over from the other end of the car and weighed-in with us.

Buck is a sweater.

He thinks he strikes 12 on all occasions, but his clock is all to the pazz.

Buck isn't a drummer—nay! nay! take back your gold!

He'll look you straight in the eye and tell you he's a traveling salesman—nix on the drummer!

I think Buck sells canned shirt-waists for the Shine Brothers.

And now, Bunch, here is where I affix one of Uncle Sam's promises-to-carry to this document and drop it in the little green box.

The Same Ever, J. H. (Copyright, 1908, by G. W. Dillingham Co.)

IRRITABLE MAN HAS A "KICK." Misuse of Apostrophe and Quotation Marks, Not to Mention "Kindly."

"There are two things that are misused a great deal," said the irritable man, "and the mishandling of them annoys me a lot. For one thing, some persons haven't the vaguest idea of the proper use of the apostrophe, 'auto's,' which is meant only to indicate the plural of auto. Now, there isn't the very slightest excuse for that and it makes me sore every time I see it. Then again, other folks don't know what to do with quotation marks. I have seen a sign on an elevated station reading, 'Keys with the agent.' Now, what earthly use are those quotation marks about the words keys and agent? None, none at all. There isn't any rhyme or reason in it."

"Well," replied his listener, "there's another as bad as that. There's the use of the word 'kindly.' You hear a lot of folks using that atrocious vaudeville phrase: 'Thank you, kindly.' That makes me sick. I saw the other day in Brooklyn a sign, 'Gents will kindly not smoke.' Only gents would use that sort of language."

Curious Marriage Custom. An English traveler in northern Nigeria describes an interesting custom connected with marriage which he came across among the Fulani, a tribe of wandering herdsmen who show no trace of negro blood and are supposed to be of Asiatic origin. One might almost suppose that they had advanced ideas about the relations of the sexes. Before a man is allowed to marry he has to stand a sound thrashing without wincing. In some parts of Europe this test of fitness for the wedded state might more reasonably be applied to the woman. One is reminded of Thomas Edgeworth's friend, who in selecting a bride dropped hot sealing wax on the girl's arm and fired a pistol off near her ear.

Argument. Many a lawyer who puts up a good argument in court fails to be convincing at home.

TILE YOUR LAND AND INCREASE YOUR CROPS

Ten of the Most Important Benefits Derived from Drainage—By Elmer O. Fippin, New York.

Because of the fundamental character of the process of drainage, its effects are numerous and far reaching. Ten of the most important ones may be given as follows:

1. Drainage removes the excess of water from the surface and from the pores in the soil, thereby rendering it more firm.

Poorly drained soil has the two-fold disadvantage of lack of stability and firmness and great susceptibility to physical modifications injurious to most farm crops. Such injury may be caused by any tillage operations, by tramping and by the natural drying of the soil.

2. Drainage is directly operative to change an unfavorable physical condition into a desirable one, as well as to reduce the tendency to a bad physical condition of the soil.

3. Contrary to a frequent belief, drainage increases the amount of moisture available to crops. This is the result of two factors. First, when the soil is granulated to the condition of good tilth, the total capillary capacity is increased. The soil is then able to both readily absorb the rainfall and to retain a larger proportion of it than would otherwise be possible, against the time of dry weather.

Second, the wider and deeper distribution of the plant roots in drained than in wet soil puts them in reach of a much larger reservoir of moisture. This effect is well known to those who have had experience in tile drainage.

4. Drainage promotes the aeration of the soil, that is, the exchange between the soil air and the external air. A supply of oxygen is necessary to the proper growth of the living organisms in the soil. Such a supply is largely, if not entirely, excluded from a saturated soil. The removal of the water makes a place for air and the granulation or loosening-up process which occurs facilitates the movement of the air into and out of the soil.

5. Drainage permits the soil to maintain a higher average temperature than is possible on wet soil. Parkes found in the peat bogs in Lancashire, England, that at a depth of seven inches the temperature of the drained soil was 15° warmer than the undrained soil and at a depth of 31 inches the drained soil was still 17° warmer.

John Johnston wrote in 1853: "Such fields as are drained must generally be left late in the spring—per main line of tile, haps too late to work favorably—and in the autumn the frost will inflict an injury."

These observations emphasize one other very important effect of drainage in this connection. It lengthens the growing season by permitting the land to be cultivated and seeded earlier in the spring and by keeping up the temperature in the fall. In the southern part of the state on the high hills where it is difficult to mature corn even in the favorable seasons it may be readily seen how important to the farmer this extension of the

growing season. In many cases the difference is between a successful crop and a failure.

6. Drainage increases the available food supply in the soil. This results from the effect of drainage on the moisture re-moistening capacity, joining a lateral the temperature, to main line of the aeration, and the growth of soil bacteria. The admission of air acts directly on the minerals as an oxidizing agent, thereby rendering some of them more soluble. The increased temperature increases the solution processes and both the aeration and higher temperature promote the larger growth of soil bacteria, which are vitally related to the plant food supply.

7. Drainage enables the plant to make a better use of the food and moisture supply in the soil. The roots of most farm crops will not develop into a saturated soil. The water table is let in bad condition at a result of water caving in of bank. Probably accelerated by tramping of stock.

8. Drainage greatly reduces the injury to winter crops resulting from "heaving" or the freezing of large amounts of water in the soil. This process raises the upper layers of soil, carrying all shallow rooted plants with it, and if some of their roots happen to be fastened in the subsoil, they may be broken off. Such effects are most noticeable on tap-rooted plants, such as the clovers, but it is almost as injurious to the grass and grain crops.

9. Drainage reduces or prevents erosion. Erosion is the washing of the soil as the drainage water flows down the slope. A saturated soil is in the right condition for erosion to be most serious. On the other hand, thorough drainage permits part of this excess to be drawn off beneath the surface in channels provided for it and which are not subject to such injury. Further, on clay soil where the injury is liable to be the result of outlet due to level the water flowing higher than moun cannot readily of the tile drain, penetrate the surface. An undesirable face soil, this effect is reduced by the changes in the physical condition of the soil resulting from drainage—as mentioned above—so that much more of the rainfall is absorbed and there by retained for the use of plants.

10. Drainage increases the yield of crops. This is, of course, the obvious purpose of drainage as applied to agriculture. It is one of the two fundamental purposes of drainage, the other being increased healthfulness. The increase varies with the original condition of the land. On acknowledged swamp land, such as is included in the first group of drainage conditions, the difference is that between no crop

and a good crop.

Another method of connecting a main line of tile with the surface is by means of a hand implement used in constructing tile drains.

1. Grade line; 2. Pick; 3. Long-handled shovel; 4 and 7. Grading scoops; 5. Narrow spade; 6. Tile lifter; 8. Grade stakes.

At all and a large crop. For it must be kept in mind in connection with wet land that its productiveness after drainage is, as a rule, directly proportional to its wetness before drainage.

even after the lapse of months. Lions which have been in a zoological garden for years have also been known to show signs of abject fear when visited by native hunters from the country where they had their early home.—London Daily Mail.

SAVE YOUR OWN SEEDS. It Pays the Farmer and the Truckee to Do This.

There is nothing the farmer or trucker should be more careful about than to have the very best seed and the variety best adapted to his soil. The common custom is to get a catalog from a lot of seedsmen, select the one who sells the cheapest and a buy seeds of him, frequently getting seeds that are not true to name and of poor vitality. I have bought radish seed of some of the best seedsmen, and when ready to market my crop had at least six different kinds.

My idea is that farmers and truckers should as far as possible select and save their own seed. Get the best stock to begin with of the different varieties you wish to grow, and select seeds from the kinds that do best, taking only the most perfect and earliest, quantity and quality to be considered, or any other point desired.

An easy way of selecting sweet corn for seed is to go through the field

at the first cutting and mark the most perfect ears by cutting off the tassel. Leave them on the stalks till ripe. When shelling for seed sort it ripe, taking the best. By this plan I have a strain of Evergreen corn that comes in with some of the very earliest varieties.

True Story. "My little niece," the cub reporter told us, "came into the house with a fig in each hand. Her mother said: 'Where did you get those figs?'"

"Will you promise not to punish me if I tell you?"

"Yes."

"I swiped 'em at the grocery store."

"Why, Jane! don't you know that Santa Claus has put that down on his book? He won't bring you anything on Christmas now."

"What did he put down in his book?"

"Jane stole two figs."

"Did he write that down?"

"Yes."

"Then he's a liar. I swiped three!"

The General Demand

of the Well-Informed of the World has always been for a simple, pleasant and efficient liquid laxative remedy of known value; a laxative which physicians could sanction for family use because its component parts are known to them to be wholesome and truly beneficial in effect, acceptable to the system and gentle, yet prompt, in action.

In supplying that demand with its excellent combination of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, the California Fig Syrup Co. proceeds along ethical lines and relies on the merits of the laxative for its remarkable success.

That is one of many reasons why Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is given the preference by the Well-Informed. To get its beneficial effects always buy the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading druggists. Price fifty cents per bottle.

FOR THE LADY OR THE AUTO.



Expressman—I don't know whether this comes here. The address is indistinct.

Housemaid—I guess it's all right. It's either a new tire for the auto, or a new hat for the missus!

BOY KEPT SCRATCHING.

Eczema Lasted 7 Years—Face Was All Raw—Skin Specialists Failed, But Cuticura Effected Cure.

"When my little boy was six weeks old an eruption broke out on his face. I took him to a doctor, but his face kept on getting worse until it got so bad that no one could look at him. His whole face was one crust and must have been very painful. He scratched day and night until his face was raw. Then I took him to all the best specialists in skin diseases but they could not do much for him. The eczema got on his arms and legs and we could not get a night's sleep in months. I got a set of Cuticura Remedies and he felt relieved the first time I used them. I gave the Cuticura Remedies a good trial and gradually the eczema healed all up. He is now seven years old and I think the trouble will never return. Mrs. John G. Klump, 80 Niagara St., Newark, N. J., Oct. 17 and 22, 1907."

SEEMED A TRIFLE PERSONAL.

Clergyman's Particular Reason for Omitting the Fifth Verse.

A clergyman in an interior town married a woman from whom he received a dowry of \$10,000 and a prospect of more. Shortly afterwards, while occupying the pulpit, he gave out a hymn, read the first verse and proceeded to read the fifth, commencing:

"Forever let my grateful heart, then he hesitated and exclaimed: 'The choir will omit the fifth verse.' Some of the congregation read the verse for themselves and smiled as they read:

Forever let my grateful heart His bounty and the grace adore, Which gives ten thousand blessings now And bids me hope for more.

Real Self-Possession. Not long ago a young couple entered a railway carriage at Sheffield and were immediately put down as a bridal pair. But they were remarkably self-possessed and behaved with such sang-froid that the other passengers began to doubt if their first surmise was correct after all.

As the train moved out, however, the young man rose to remove his overcoat, and a shower of rice fell out, while the passengers smiled broadly.

But even that did not affect the youth, who also smiled, and, turning to his partner, remarked audibly:

"By Jove, May! I've stolen the bridegroom's overcoat!"—Tatler.

EAGER TO WORK Health Regained by Right Food.

The average healthy man or woman is usually eager to be busy at some useful task or employment.

But let dyspepsia or indigestion get hold of one, and all endeavor becomes a burden.

"A year ago, after recovering from an operation," writes a Mich. lady, "my stomach and nerves began to give me much trouble."

"At times my appetite was voracious, but when indulged, indigestion followed. Other times I had no appetite whatever. The food I took did not nourish me, and I grew weaker than ever."

"I lost interest in everything, and wanted to be alone. I had always had good nerves, but now the merest trifle would upset me and bring on a violent headache. Walking across the room was an effort and prescribed exercise was out of the question."

"I had seen Grape-Nuts advertised, but did not believe what I read, at the time. At last when it seemed as if I were literally starving, I began to eat Grape-Nuts."

"I had not been able to work for a year, but now after two months on Grape-Nuts I am eager to be at work again. My stomach gives me no trouble now, my nerves are steady, and, ever, and interest in life and ambition have come back with the return to health."

"There's a Reason." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville" in 10 pgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

PERFECT HEALTH.

After Years of Backache, Dizziness and Kidney Disorders.

Mrs. R. C. Richmond, of Northwood, Iowa, says: "For years I was a martyr to kidney trouble, backache, dizzy spells, headaches and a terrible bearing-down pain. I used one remedy after another without benefit. Finally I used a box of Doan's Kidney Pills and the backache ceased. Encouraged, I kept on, and by the time I had used three boxes not a sign of the trouble remained. My health is perfect."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Brazil Takes Forward Step. The latest plans of the Brazilian authorities interested in improved agricultural methods in Brazil is to employ a number of traveling professors of agriculture, who shall visit different sections of the country and give practical instruction in modern agriculture. Experimental fields are also to be established in this connection.

How's This? We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him to be a reliable man in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him. WASHINGTON, D. C. and MARINE.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pill for constipation.

Poiteness. There is no better plan of life than to cultivate true poiteness. It is the best thing either to get a good name or supply the want of it.—Horton.

Smokers appreciate the quality value of Lewis' Single Binder cigar. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

It takes a truthful man to tell a lie long after to attract attention.

Those Tired, Aching Feet of Yours? Get Allen's Foot-Powder. It cures itching, it cures A. S. Ointment, Le Roy, N. Y., for sample.

When a man is short he usually has a long face.

FOUR GIRLS Restored to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Read What They Say.

Miss Lillian Ross, 530 East 84th Street, New York, writes: "Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound overcame irregularities, periodic suffering, and nervous headaches. After everything else had failed to help me, I feel it a duty to let others know of it."

Katharine Craig, 1035 Lafayette St., Denver, Col., writes: "Thanks to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I am well, after suffering for months from nervous prostration."

Miss Marie Stoltzman, of Laurel, Ia., writes: "I was in a downward condition, suffered from suppression, indigestion, and poor circulation. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound made me well and strong."

Miss Ellen M. Olson, of 411 N. East St., Keosauqua, Ill., says: "Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured me of backache, side ache, and established my periods, after the best local doctors had failed to help me."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN. For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

Business & Finance. A magazine no investor can afford to be without. Sample copy free. Boston & Finance, 115 Nassau St., New York.

A. N. K.—A (1908—46) 2256.

His Opinion.

"De race has got ter rise an' shine ef' ever it hopes ter git dar," said Brother Williams. "Too many of us thinks dat all we got ter do is ter go ter sleep in de hot sun an' rise up an' eat watermillions in de shade! Dey ain't no room in dis worl' fer de lazy man. He's always de one what gets run over, an' den lays dar an' howls bekause he's hurt!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of J. C. F. Williams. In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

In Chicago. Ella—That man slipped on my foot. Stella—Why don't you put ashes on it?

Strong Winds and Sand Storms cause granulation of the eyelids. PETTIS' EYE SALVE soothes and quickly relieves. All druggists or Howard Bros., Buffalo, N. Y.

A farmer naturally wants the earth in his business, for without it he couldn't do a thing.

Smokers have to call for Lewis' Single Binder cigar to get it. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

Marriage is a contract, but there are lots of contract jumpers.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures whooping cough, croup, croup, croup.

The actions of a dumb man speak louder than his words.

SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Heavy Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad