

to Thunder Creek and shooting all of the windows out of the place weeks be-fore. He never saw such loyal citizens, fore. He never saw such loyal citizens, he said. They were tickled as kids to live in a real, bang-up metropolis. It was really affecting to see their pleasure and the way they had strutted around and named the street in front of their shack "Bunk Boulevard" and the road to the stables "Hoof Avenue," and had boiled unanimous to think of Thunder Creek's being the county seat. Creek's being the county seat.

It was a magnificent victory, started celebrating that minute, and we got more and more delirious and lit up with joy and things, until, about midnight, just to cool off a little and keep from igniting from spontaneous combustion, we took our moving wheels that we had built when we annexed Ozone City, and went over to Thunder Creek and hanked the goart house home that and hauled the court house home that night, county clerk and all, he living in the court house and being persuaded in no gentle manner to remain in bed dur-

ing the trip.

Well, sir, it seemed as if we didn't have nothing left to wish for fer Jupiter There we was, only six months old, a sure enough county seat, buildings in all directions, stores, saloons, a hotel, livery barn, and Chop Suey parlor, Ying having given up his laundry practice, us being too busy to patronize him reg-ular. There were n't any set of men ular. There weren't any set of men as happy as we right then. We kept a painting up Jupiter City, and a pola-painting up Jupiter City, and a-pol-ishing her and moving houses around where they'd set better, and me and Ike kept a dreamin' and a dreamin' and dodging trolley cars and tallyhos in our sleep, and planning World's Fairs in the morning and skyserapers afternoons, and now and then selling a lot to some Thunday Cracker who had give me and Thunder Creeker who had give up and come sneaking over. I've been in love, Jim, but it was n't ever a shiver compared with the thrills I got out of Jupi-ter City. I just seemed to grow and crackle and expand with her.

You never can tell anything about nothing whatever in this darn world, Jim. We thought sure that when we'd nothing whatever in this darn world, Jim. We thought sure that when we'd got the county seat, we'd planted Jupiter City so deep in the vitals of South Dakota that she'd ornament the map for all time. 'Stead of that, we ruined her. Ruined her by getting the court house away from Thunder Creek. Strange, aint it. Who'd a thought it? Towns has been built, and grown so large that their aldermen has had to be introduced to each other, with less brains than we to each other, with less brains than we showered on Jupiter City, which aint no more. It's all luck. And luck got soured on us about then, and done us more dirt than it does a fellow who drops dead with four aces in his hands.

It was the Low Growl boys that caused the trouble. They couldn't stand prosperity. They was citizens of a real bang up thousand horse power town, and had swung an election for her, and it went to their heads. Twas n't three days before they'd counted noses and discovered that they was about sixty per cent of Jupiter City, and then things began to happen. For arrogance and began to happen. For arrogam-outrageousness, you never saw 'em bent. They held a caucus and demanded every county office there was. We kicked, and they threatened to call another election and give the court house back. We and give the court house back. We had to persuade the old officers to re-sign, and it took about forty town lots sign, and it took about forly town lots to do it. And then being busy any way, the new officials made us do the work while they drew the pay—which they had been careful to raise, too.

had been careful to raise, too.

We thought maybe this would satisfy them, but it jest whetted their appetite. They passed a law that no county official had to pay for his drinks. That pretty near ruined our two saloons, and when they got to quarreling among themselves and passing around offices, so everybody could have a turn, both irrigation plants went out of business and moved over to Thunder Creek, which was sore any way and didn't obey no county laws. That was a hard blow. It burt us terrible. We lost eight citizens right off, including Judge Simms, who vowed off, including Judge Simms, who vowed he'd never lived in no desert, and was n't going to begin at his age. He packed up his statute book and went over to Thunder Creek.

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