



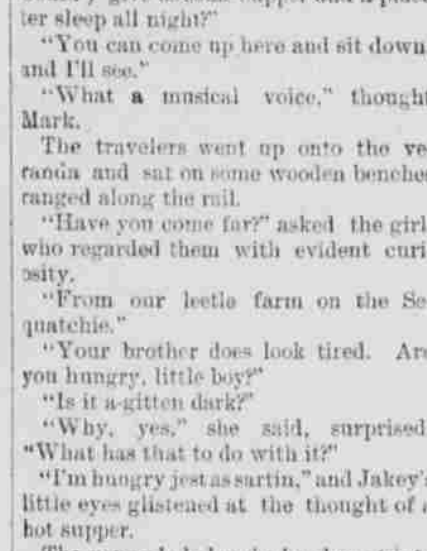
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Mark looked at the boy and thought a few moments without speaking. He was a stupid looking child, but Mark thought that if he could get him to go with him it might avert suspicion. Were he brighter he might be of use perhaps. At any rate, he would doubtless serve some purpose.

to think that the child's stupidity was not flattering to himself, inasmuch as Jakey had penetrated further than his had into Souri's design, and his diffidence as to confessing her ignorance. "I hope there'll be no necessity for that, Jakey. But we must arrange what we shall pass for in Dixie. Now do you know what you are?"

Mark had kept up his assumed character very well during her presence. Now that he was left alone with the daughter he was put to a much severer test. The girl had something of the staidness of her mother as that staidness had appeared in her mother's youth. Mark had been so used from his childhood to meet a refined bearing with one equally refined that he found it difficult to avoid doing so now.

CHAPTER III. A CONFEDERATE HOUSEHOLD.



Mark took his pipe and went down to the yard to have a smoke. Going back to the barn he entered into conversation with an old dork sitting on a barrel by the stable door and evidently master of the horse.

Mark would have done well to let the "Ode to the Spirit of Nature" alone; but with a beautiful girl beside him, the half moon sinking in the west and all nature in repose, he momentarily forgot his assumed character entirely. He began, intending to give only a few lines and not to forget his dialect; but the spirit of nature was in him as well as in the poem, and by the time he had recited a few lines he was as oblivious to the character of Slack, the farmer's son, as if he had been the poet himself.

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We perspire a pint a day without knowing it ought to. If not, there's trouble ahead. The obstructed skin becomes sallow or breaks out in pimples. The trouble goes deeper, but this trouble enough.

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[TO BE CONTINUED.] It is an interesting fact that nearly all the countries which grant full suffrage to women are islands.