



One evening, while walking down one of the streets of Benela, in company with my young friend, Sam Parker, I saddenly inquired:

"Who is that slender, dark-eyed youth, crossing the street on our left?

"What! Don't know Benela Ben ?" exclaimed my companion, in evident astonishment.

I confessed that such was the case, and expressed my willingness to learn he was lying on his bed, and the robbers something of the handsome young fellow who had just passed.

"Well, here we are at the office. Walk in, and I'll tell you how the youth who Now open that safe, or die!" so quickly attracted your attention came by his name."

"It was in March, 1889, that the merchants of this place, and all the farmers rible suffering the poor people of the for miles around resolved to sell their neighborhood would undergo should cotton.

prices, and, now that the rise had come, rather than aid these men in opening a general feeling of good cheer prevaded the safe. tewn and country.

"There were many who had lived very close for months, depriving themselves revolver's muzzle against the youth's of every luxury that they might hold their crops; and then, just as the knowledge that they must sell was forced up- instant death, as he answered in tones on them by pressing need, prices went up like a flash.

Brokers, with their steamboats, came up the river, and for three days all was hard work and confusion.

"Then, on the evening of the third day, as the last boat, heavily loaded rolled to the floor unconscious. with the fleecy staple, was preparing to leave, the committee of merchants appointed to conduct the sale were called into the cabin and paid \$190,000.

"The money was to be given to those to whem it belonged the following day. in the door which led to the ware room, and farmers from miles around were expected in Benela, with their laborers, early in the morning, as it was well known the latter class had been clamoring for a settlement for the past several brand on the hearth near his hand, a months.

"Although the amount paid into their hands was enormous and the salvation of the entire county depended upon its safe keeping, the thought that a robbery might be attempted that night never occurred to the committee; and after some discussion, it was decided that Major Garvin, the chairman, should leposit it in his great safe until the der in the wareroom out of danger. hour for distribution arrived.

"Ben Gilmore, Major Garvin's bookkeeper, invariably slept in the small feet and hurled the blazing stick directroom back of the store where the safe ly at them. stood, and after the money had been deand said:

"Ben as a matter of precaution, we hours, have charged the combination to ", enela," and as you will have to open the safe at closing time, you will please remember the new combination."

"Yes, sir!" answered the youth. "And as he glanced up from his

the room, and three deadly revolvers

covered the bookkeeper's heart. "Throw up your hand's!" commanded the taller of them, who was evidently the behavior of horses when driven with the leader. "Slowly Ben's hands went up, and

then the tall man spoke again:

"Rube, you can hold the youngster covered while I manipulate the combine."

"For a few monents the man worked at the safe in silence, and then, suddenly springing to his feet, knocked young Gilmore senseless.

"When Ben recovered consciousness were seated by his side with their pistols once more shining in his eyes.

"You have changed the combination.

"The words came low and sharp, and Ben realized that to refuse meant death. Yet, as he chought of the tertheir hardearned money be taken from "They had held it all winter for better them, he resolved to give up his life

> "Will you work that combine?" grated the robber chief, pressing the head.

> "Gilmore closed his eyes, anticipating that left no doubt of his determination: "No, I will never open that safe, and

it is useless for you to ask me to do so.' "With an oath, the man brought his revolver down on Ben's head, and for the second time that night the youth

"When he again recovered his senses. the burglars had removed the mattress and covering from the bed and were placing it around the safe.

"He could see an open keg of powder and in an instant realized that they were going to blow open the safe,

"He groaned at the thought, and then, as his eyes fell upon a blazing new light of desperate determination gleamed in his eyes.

"I guess that'll deaden the report." said one of the men, after he had suc ceeded in arranging the mattress.

"Then, stepping toward the keg of powder, he continued: "Come, boys; I'll take what powder

is needed, and you can set the remain-"The three were bending over the

keg, when suddenly Ren leaped to his gard appearance the owners attempt to

"A cry of horror from the men, and posited, Major Garvin turned to him a spout of flame shooting skyward, was

"The people of Benela were awakened by the tremendous report, and by the time they had reached the streets the was in a bright blaze.

books he observed a tall well built saved the building, however, and and sent broadcast by the Massachusoon extinguished "The torn and mingled remains of the three masked men were discovered and carried in the open air. "Two was dead and the other was the young bookkeeper he walked away. the suffering burglar recovered suffciently to tell what had occurred.

The Overhead Check.

A gentleman in Boston, who had be come convinced by his observation of the overhead check-rein that they often suffered great pain from it, and whose study of its check upon their health had

led him to the conclusion that it caused distressing and fatal disenses, some time since set about doing what he could to correct the evil. His ordinary business often took him

about the city of Boston, and also te other cities in New England, and wher Huldah derived great satisfaction from rectly in the case of horses upon which this close contract with "dictionary and often obtaining person to uncheck engely over the long list of guests to them, and entering politely into conversation on the subject with their owners or drivers.

Horses were found tossing their by heads fretfully under the check, evi Aunt Huldah, aghast. "Why, Job, dently in pain, and, upon being released by this gentleman, they often her? I believe the woman is plumb pressed their heads upon his shouldet. as if in gratitude for the relief he se that little house of Dickinson's commit cured them. Very often the owners of the horses.

when courteously addressed on the subject admitted that they had nevel thought of the pain and injury which might be inflicted by the overhead check and promised to have it remove. from the harness.

In order to carry on his humane work on a larger scale the gentleman had printed a great number of small leaflets each bearing at the top a picture of a horse with its head drawn up into an under tother ?" unnatural position by the overcheck critter," said Uncle Job, in a mild de murs now in response to Miss Appleand beneath it these words:

"About 500 verterinary purgeons in Great Britain signed a paper condemn lives within sight of our house and 1'm ing over-check reins as painful to horses and productive of disease.

It is cruel in the extreme, causing neighbors here, an slight her." distortion of the windnipe to such a degree as to impede the respiration ever afterward, and various other diseases at makin friends, either,

face, megrims, apoplexy, coma and inflammation and softening of the brain. and all resulting in shortening the life jy on her nose, and surveyed her obstiof the horse,

The writer begs of you to consider that this cruel thing has been but a doc bring us a heathen beast to set up short time in use; that we managed our horses very well before, and it is now Job for I won't" necessary now.

A good authority says that the overhead check rein is generally put upon poor animals whose wearied and hagdisguise by this instrument of torture.

Pray abolish it at once, and use our influence with others, for it is a cruel. senseless fashion. The same may be the last Ben saw or heard for many said of the blinders, 75 per cent of which can be removed with perfect. safley today."

This leaflet the gentleman handed to entire rear end of Major Garvin's store horses wearing the overcheek were

INCLE JOB'S GUEST.

Aunt Huldah and Uncle Job was eriting the invitation to their golden wedding. It was an annusual and arduous undertaking. They had selected an elegant formula from a Complete Letter Writer, which represented to Aunt Huldah's mind the acms of all social etiquette, and she now sat dictating to Uncie Job, who was a fair scribe but a poor speller.

Thus far all had gone well. Aunt countryside, until Uncle Job's steel pen traced the name of Miss Abigall Apple

"You aint goin' to ask her!" cried man, they do tell the queerest things of crazy! Livin' all alone as she does in from no one knows where, and fillin' it from garret to cellar with cotton flannever seen in the ark or out of it since! An' doin, her housework in gloves, an' Fourth of July! I wonder she wasn't hooked sky high for it. Ef you ask her to our weddin', who knows but elephant under one arm and a camel

"I think she's a poor, lonesome old teched, Huldy; I don't deny it, but she not goin' to have every one of our

"Well, but she ain't fit to come to any web getherin'. She don't seem ponted | want to stand as we did long ago," said

such as ecoriation of the mouth and to work," said the old man dryly "I "Mebbe folks don't go the right way hips, paralysis of the muscles of fer mean to take this invite over myself.

and urge her to come." Aunt Huldah set her spectacles firm-

nate husband. "Jest as you say then. But if she

in our parlor, you" do the thankin'

"I will, I will," promised Farmer amph together with a twinkling little smile

The wedding day was a crisp and golden one, such a day as October alone ed shocked and vexed. Instantly, up knows how to fashion. Aunt Huldah had been up since dawn. The old fall and then a terrific crash. Millie house, full of quaint furniture, had needed an immense amount of scrubb the entire company streamed after ing and polishing to bring it up to its them. mistress's ideal.

porch announced the first visitors the moor surveyed into tragment's lace daughter, released from boardingschool to celebrate this anniversary, rushed into the room.

versation with the minister, a young man, with the tamp of college fresh upon him. He was the earliest guest tor to Most of the guests arrived at the frock same time, so within half an hour the shawl, a parlor were filled. A stiffness hung and acquaintances, which turned into imaging to g astonishment when Miss Appleby bobed into the room.

She was an odd tigure, clad in a rusty black dress with a scarlet silk hand womans head black dress der shoulders and a taid. "I point he large bunch of salvia, very much askew when I paid by in over one ear. To complete this strange was completed holiday gear she had two enormous t out or return to bottles dangling clumsily from each sponsible because side, and hore under one arm, true to ion't like dog. Aunt Hudah's prophecy, a large cottonfannel giraffe decked out in ink-spots The point was n famer grant pleces, while a cnicken-bone ratcher, after a artifully fastened on, graced its nondescript head.

Bowing to the company, she placed out I claim to us her gift on the table, where it careened backward on abnormally thick legs in ules that pases a tragic attitude, and then she looked seckties or ne around the silent room for her hostess. Aunt Huidah was absent. Hearing show 'em thens no welcoming word or invitation, the nel animales the like of which was old lady shrank back timidly, and her hands finttered up and down her dress. heir ride, and en-Millie had been hiding her smiles be- rosseyed you and An dom net needs to her cow's borns last hind her fau, but at the sight of the 124, providing to nervous, disturbed glance she went im prosseyed and pulsively to the rescue.

"Dear Miss Appleby, grandma will what shell come a fetchin' up with an be so glad you came! Take this chair! 10 lay to it and the I suppose you know Miss Appleby, ladies and gentlemen?

There were friendly nods and murtermined voice. "She may be a little by's queer courtsies, as pretty Millicent placed her gently in a chair and chatted kindly with her.

Aunt Huldah and Uncle Job were to York Herald. be addressed after the fashion of

the old service by the minister. "I Aunt Huldah, "when we had no idea. of life; and I want to realize in the solempness of it.

So now they came into the room hand in hand, both heads silver gray and both hearts quietly happy. The second service had all the solemnity of a first ceremony about it, and the minister's remarks were very felicitous. As his voice ceased and a rusting silence succeeded it, suddenly Miss Appleby lifte1 her head, shifled audibly and dashed Satterice, scaling the note and his tri- the staircase and then darting up it like from the room, pausing at the foot of a squirrel.

Every eye in the room followed her

At last Aunt Huldah sorveyed her stood Mass Applety, calmly untying rotted whenever drivers or left in carriages with which house interior with a sigh of satisfact- the necks of the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the necks of the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the necks of the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the necks of the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the necks of the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the necks of the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the necks of the two great bottles from hay Circe raced the two great bottles fro entire rear end of Major Garvin's store norses wearing the strong and sent broadcast by the Massachur ion. She was giving some asparagus the string that fastened them to her 'ather's trotting and dress, and one bed curtain wrenched Nevada's trottat down. "it takes me to smell smoke," she said, nodding sage y at the horrified it a time .- New In know, grandma. Such a charming day! people crowing into the door. "I morbreas Leaves perfectly beautiful! Well, how tally fear tire an' always go to big asare you? Hetty, isn't she as hand, semblages with my two hand grenade somewhere about me; that is, every Balfour was chiefa scarum gitts were ever blessed with " sence I was bornt out o' house and

The street cargo noments, opened "I ain't no jain "Under yourm

"What! L

"Then I sh

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man, apparently about 40 years of age, standing immediately in front of the door directly behind his employer.

"A half concealed expression of triumph shone in the fellow's eyes, but quickly noting the inquiring took of dying, but before breathing his last,

"Who can that be? asked the Major Garvin, turning just in time to catch a glimps of the retreating ligure.

"His name is Rose, so he informed me, answered Mr. Ford, a member of the coramittee.

"And glad of an opportunity to satisfy the curiosity of his companions, he cantinued:

"This Mr. Rose and his two friends came in yesterday, and have spent the his room, while a great throng of farmtime since their arrival in looking at some of their timber lands in this locality. They contemplate purchasing several thousand acres, and intend erecting a monster sawmill on the civer a few miles below."

After a few comments on the new enterprise, the committee of merchants adjourned to their homes, and Gilmore was left alone with his ledgers.

"The office stood some 12 feet back from the store, with a narrow hallway connecting the two, and when the c'erks had handed in their note books, and returned to their own sleeping rooms in the rear of the larger building, Ben knew he would see no more of them until morning.

"After depositing the receipts for the day in the safe, he closed it, and, drawing his chair near the fire, attempted to read.

"It was useless, however, as the cunaing face of the man who had glanced in while the committee were present cept passing through his mind.

"He evidently heard Major Garvin mention the combination." mused Ben. as the man's face once more appeared to stare at him from the paper he was reading.

"Then, after a few moment's silence, be muttered.

Starvation and untold misery would be the portion of these people were at money stolen. I am going to change the combination again."

"With that he left his seat, and walking to the huge safe, knelt before it.

Just as he completed his task, and was about to rise, a cold draught of and fanned his cheeks, and he turned and the door with the knowledge

Why do hens always lay eggs in the at it was open. "Three masked men stood just inside

"At that moment the body of young Gilmore was found under the mattress, and quickly carried to the nearest house. When the explosion occurred, the bed-clothing and mattress had struck him first, thus saving his life.

"When Ben opened his eyes at 9 o'clock the next morning, the committee of merchants and a physician were in ers and laborers were gathered in front of the house. "On observing that his bookkeeper had recovered consciousness, Major

Garvin came forward and said: "They are dead, Ben; but one lived long enough to tell us what you did to save the money. The people are here and appreciate your action more than

words can express." "A pleased smile lit up the pale face and seeing that his mind was perfectly clear, Major Garvin asked:

"What is the new combination, my boy ?"

"I simply signed the old with my first name," came the low answer.

"Stepping to the door, Major Garvin said .

"The combination is "Benela Ben," and the safe will be opened in a few noments."

"Then some one proposed three cheer for the young bookkeeper-for Benela Ben-and only those who can comprehend what the safety of the money meant to these people can understand the energy and enthusiasm with which they were given."

A Queer Place to Swarm.

Bees sometimes select queer abodes, but one of the queerest yet is the home of a newly swarmed colony in Augusta. They have taken possession of a ventilator flue of the chimney leading from the clerk of court's office at the court house and as many as fifty are at times buzzing around Clerk of Court's Choate's desk. As yet they have stung no one, but the occupants of the room do not feel quite at ease .- Lewiston Journal

emelty to animals That the overhead check is cruel and

hurtful does not seem to admit of doubt. Horses upon which it is placed almest always acquire a habit of lifting or tossing the head in order to relieve the strain upon the neck, and its continued application produces well established diseases.-Youth's Compan-

120 Churches in London.

There is an uncommon number of churches in London; they are marvelously common objects. They are almost all stone and railed in with granite posts and iron fences. Two things about the Episcopal churches(which are in the majority) strike an American as at the tall, handsome girls. She was laugh, and under cover of this laughter Bunsen burnets often stored in the little inclosuses, so lived to see this day. A few minutes with heartfelt earnestness. that up against the dingy church wall later she followed them up to her best you see a bright red ladder or a flaming chamber. tool of home cart. The fire ladders are on wheels. Church yards are some airth aint you got crammed into that upon company. As Uncle Job took her in to supper on his arm, she was happier times regular fire stations, and in such bag? You call that packin', do you! times regular fire stations, and in such a such all you're learnin' of ladylike than she had been for many a long day. I cases a red lantern is buing on the raft- is that all you're learnin' of ladylike Hearty invitations to two quilting tion" glaring in its lighted front. The Hettie looked up with hushing other peculiar thing about the churnes checks at this condemnation called the parish, and that marriage licenses dress," and she pelled out a flimsy gar are obtainable somewhere on the prem. ment of siglimmering min covered with ises, and that men are wanted for the lace, and gay scarlet boxs. army and stokers will get good pay in the navy. In these notices the branch of the public service that calls for recruits usually posts a colored picture of the uniform of that wing of the service chromos that are intended to look very alluring. We Americans are reminded by this treatment of the houses of wor ship that perhaps it was not so strange

after all for the British to use the churches in New York and Boston for garrisons and prisons and whatever else they needed them for during the Revo lutionary war. Where church and state are joined the state puts the meeting houses to its own uses .- Julian Ralph in Harper's Weekly.

A Missomer.

"I have about come to the conclusion that a surface road is a misnomer.'

How do you make that out?" "Because nothing short of an investi-

gating committee will bring anything day time? At night they are roosters. New York World.

"We walked up from the station, you some a grandmother as two harum-They both hugged her in rapturous home there years ago. It must' a' been school girl fashion.

the best bedroom, with the big mirror | look so white, Mis' Satterlee. Half a lifty four superate Hattie and I want to come out in but- bed-cartain an' a grimerack dress aint wait upon them

"I s'pose so, said Aunt Huldah, leniently, looking with a suspicion of tears nonsense, half-earnest, made every one banquet. One Kitz wishing their father, her only son had Aunt Huldah thanked Miss Appleby

is that the public notices and placards down on Millie, who only laughed. She fanced in the Virginia Reel, and youp, about half a take "Pshaw, grandina! You have to squeeze inally went home serenely happy on There you read the tax ratings for things into a cabas. Look at this "Goin' to wear that?" tried Aunt

Fuldah, in dismay.

Hettie smiled quietly, and brushed her own pretty blue cloth. Milicent bit her lip in mortification, but she arrayed herself in the condemned gar ment and ran down in the sitting-room where Uncle Job sat in all the dignity of his old broadcloth wedding coat, nibbling flagroot and looking contented. mistake; but it's agoing to stay right "Now, Millie, I aint a goin' to have

the plain, old fashioned folks a comin here fonight put out with the sight of sech airs in my gran'darter! Take that flummididdle rig straight off, an' come down here in a dress like your sister's or not a step into my parlors do you

into the parlor to join her sister in con-

a candie left burnin', an' it toppied over quests sat dows all "By the way, grandma, can't we have somehow. La, it's out now! Don't 160 waiters, sito " much to lose an' that's really all that

Millicent's sorrow over her dress, half in the market in white

It now was easy for the shy, queer old lady to get acquainted with the "Laws a massy me! What upon company. As Uncle Job took her in parties and a husking frolic were se cepted with a pleasure which admitted Uncle Job's arm, with the memory of kind words and the girl's warm kisses to cheer her solitary hours

When the last guest had departed Millicent and Hetty slipped into the parlor. Their grandmother was surrying the riraffe with dubious' admiration on her face. ____

"What do you think of it, grandma?" asked Hetty.

"I think, said grauduna, seriously, The sight of Milicent brought a deep here in this parlor for s rewinder-you girls needn't ask jest miat-of your grandfather's wisdom, My Job has a head an' heart to match each other, an' that's an uncommon thing nowadays

The giraffe was induced to stand up right on o little table in a corner, and now when Miss Appleby, who is a welcome visitor, runs over to Aunt Millie rushed back up stairs, flung always takes a sly peep into the parlor the despised dreas in a heap on the chair, and cried heartily. She upset creation of her fertile brain which has the tear stains, and finally arrayed in thinks that it is the most beautiful ornament in the house.- Youths Com-

creater and great dlowed to itoi mit

Treasts-fire Het

Some time again met in the Wards burgh. Two these

Two kitchens ward for each table. The iteam boilers for b ieven stoves for the b

and for frying puty boilers of large size size ty of about sevening with the plum pudder aga part of the desert. The quantities of urkeys, 200 fowls, Hapon

and feliy and cream the per of 600. There set wer of 600. There and required and 30,000 per ncluding spools, kuin 10,000 wine glasses and a and pieces of decorant ables.- London Til Druss and Manural Count Wrangel with scellent "Hook on a for rulan; and witting Fi

ollowing Jules ir ine generally 1. Uned The coachman Pulla nit ust stiff postist. touching his body, with forwars' heel'to heel of th of the box and only har pusiness.).'e misth body of his soq night possibly m per of the house e rim of the ha whip. He must whip. He must whip. And his fe overred even in w constituty lead people to tgear is not in a

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