

THE ROANOKE BEACON.

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THE ROANOKE BEACON, Plymouth, N. C.

His Good Philosophy.

Jeff Howerson's Reply to all Misfortunes.

"MIGHT HAVE BEEN WORSE."

Old Jeff Howerson, up in Lake county, always said that things might be worse. While a young fellow he was engaged to a beautiful girl, but she married another man, and Jeff sat down on the bank of the creek, gazing at the water and the dark shadows that seemed to float down the stream.

"Oh, it could be worse." It was a philosophy that no one wished to argue against; it always has been and doubtless will be until the end of human disappointment, which means until the end of time.

Well, Jeff went about his business—what little he had—and after a time married a girl who turned out to be a scold—worst scold that anybody had ever seen. One day she scolded because there wasn't anything in the house fit to eat. Jeff went to the cross roads grocery and returned with a market basket full of provisions. He put the basket on the floor and turning to her with a philosophical smile, began with:

"My dear—" but there he halted, for she flew at him.

"Oh, how dare you make a slave of me!" she cried. "Oh, you heartless thing, loading me down with all

that stuff to cook," and she heaved the basket out into the road.

Jeff scratched his head, and a neighbor who had seen the performance halted and began to sympathize with him, but Jeff smiled and remarked:

"Oh, it might have been worse."

The creek arose and washed his crop away, and because he dropped off to sleep as usual that night his wife railed at him.

"Oh, you haven't a particle of sense," she fumed. "Everything gone and here you are asleep."

"Well, I can bring everything back being asleep about as well as being awake. Gone you know."

"And I suppose it could have been worse."

"Yes, we might have had more to lose."

"I do think you've got less sense than any man I ever saw."

"Well," he drawled, "might have been worse."

"I don't see how. Wish you'd tell me."

"I might have had a twin brother—might be two of us instead of one, you know."

The next season there came a cyclone and everything on the farm but the mortgage was swept away, and Jeff howled that it might have been worse. His wife snapped at him. "Well, I can't see how."

"Why, it might have blown the well away. As it is, you see, we've got plenty of good water, and if there should come a water famine throughout the country our supply would be worth thousands of dollars."

About the time the philosopher got back into shape a couple of fellows came along and sold him a gold brick for the price of his wheat crop. His wife had been delighted at the deal, but when the truth fell cold upon her she flew at him with a spurt of reproaches. He pointed to the fact that hog cholera was raging in the neighborhood.

"But what difference does that make?" she snorted, and he replied:

"Good deal. Makes it all the better for us."

"I don't see how,"

"Why, we haven't any hogs to lose."

To the neighborhood he was a great comfort. Discontent stopped at his gate to receive encouragement, and once when an old man had been made to believe that down the road there was for him a better day lying bright in the sun, the wife came out and scolded him away, but Jeff ought up with him, climbed up in

The Best Remedy for Croup.

[From the Atchison, Kan., Daily Globe.]

This is the season when the woman who knows the best remedies for croup is in demand in every neighborhood. One of the most terrible things in the world is to be awakened in the middle of the night by a whoop from one of the children. The croup remedies are almost as sure to be lost, in case of croup, as a revolver is sure to be lost in case of burglars. There used to be an old-fashioned remedy for croup, known as hive syrup and tolu, but some modern mothers say that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is better, and does not cost so much. It causes the patient to "throw up the phlegm" quicker, and gives relief in a shorter time. Give this remedy as soon as the croupy cough appears and it will prevent the attack. It never fails and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all druggists.

his buggy and said:

"Old friend, it might have been worse; she might have kept you from stopping."

"Ah," the old man replied, "you help me, but where is your encouragement?"

"Mine? Oh, I have it. I might have married my wife sooner."

One day while the wife was walking in the woods a tree fell and knocked her senseless. Some one went after Jeff, found him talking to some gloomy neighbors, and when he arrived at home the doctor was getting ready to leave, having given his patient up. The woman called Jeff to the bedside and with the last gleam of reason said to him:

"Now, you see what has happened. I am dying. Can you say it could have been worse?"

Jeff scratched his head.

"Yes, Jane, it could have been worse."

"But I don't see how," she feebly replied.

"Why, dear the tree fell this week, didn't it? Well, it might not have fallen till week after next—and, besides, it might have fallen on me."

And the neighbors all said it could have been worse.—Opie P. Read.

For a Bad Cold.

If you have a bad cold you need a good reliable medicine like Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to loosen and relieve it, and to allay the irritation and inflammation of the throat and lungs. For sale by all druggists.

It may seem funny, but the fellow who pays cash is a man of no account.

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There is no such thing as being proud before man and humble before God.

Startling, But True.

"If every one knew what a grand medicine Dr. King's New Life Pills is," writes D. H. Turner, Dempsetown, Pa., "you'd sell all you have in a day. Two weeks' use has made a new man of me." Infalible for constipation, stomach and liver troubles. 25c at Spruill & Bro.'s store.

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Badly

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