

BILLY PATTERPAT

By FRANK H. SWEET

Copyright, 1904, by Frank H. Sweet

O'Neil stepped to the door of the saloon, holding his glass so he could see the colors of the sunlight through the liquor. The street was comparatively deserted, for when cowboys were in town it was customary for the inhabitants to bethink themselves of needed duties indoors. The color of the liquor proving satisfactory, O'Neil's hand dropped from its significant position on his hip pocket, and his eyes swept the street.

"Hi! here, you fellers!" he yelled suddenly. "Yonder's Billy Patterpat turning the corner. Let's cover the street and corral him and then make him dance."

"Huh!" drawled another cowboy who was leaning against the counter, emptying glasses and flinging them at whoever he thought might not be able to dodge and holding his revolver in readiness to meet possible objection to his playfulness. "Patterpat won't dance. He's joined the little party of Mennonites up country and gone plain. Ain't you heard? Billy ain't frivolous any more."

"We're goin' to give him a drink first" significantly. "There won't be trouble then. You used to know Billy."

"The figure at the counter straightened. "Why, of course, of course," he



"LOOK AT THAT, BILLY."

conceded, "a good drink will be oil for Patterpat's feet. I did used to know Billy. The only trouble with him was that all his brains and fun and everything was jest in his feet, and with them gone plain there couldn't be no Patterpat any more. We'll oil 'em with Billy's special limberer."

As they filed out a newcomer from Texas looked discontentedly at O'Neil. "Any special inducement 'bout that Patterpat's feet?" he inquired. "I've been pretty comfortable sitting on the counter. We have dancing down to Texas."

"Better go back there," curtly, "or go sit on the counter if you like. As to inducement, there ain't only one dancer, and that's Patterpat. I've been to Frisco and to Kansas City and to Chicago, and I've seen dancin'—least-ways what they called dancin'—but I've never seen but one Patterpat, only he has to be limbered up with great jugs of whisky first. Then his legs are all wheels and parabolas and rickshaws and scintillates. Now, you stand right here, and I'll canter out to the middle of the street. That's him comin' yonder and beginnin' to dodge already. That's the way he used to do, and we had to round him like we would a wild mustang and then fill him up."

Billy Patterpat was a block and a half away, coming on slowly and looking from side to side for some avenue of escape. The gradual spreading of the cowboys across the street brought up memories of past experiences, and his eyes had begun to grow troubled and full of apprehension. At length he stopped and looked back, but it was too late now. Several of the cowboys were near their mustangs, and as he turned they swung into their saddles and dashed up the street. In a few moments he was in their midst, struggling and protesting, his eyes big with terror of what he felt was coming.

"Don't you give it to me, gentlemen," he pleaded. "I'm plain now, and it wouldn't be right. Ain't danced in six months and ain't tasted a drop. Don't you make me now."

"Look at that, Billy," said O'Neil, holding up a bottle between Billy's eyes and the sun. "Don't that look good? Just see how it smiles! It's the very best in town, and we've got more bottles in waiting. There's ten whole glasses for you, Billy—just for you. Think how it'll feel running down your throat and remember how it smells! Lordy, I do feel almost like drinking the whole thing myself! But here, Billy."

He reached but the bottle suddenly, and Billy's hands—both of them—went hungrily toward it. His eyes were shining, his lips trembling, his whole form in a quiver, but even then, with an almost superhuman effort, he forced his arms back to his sides.

"Don't, O'Neil!" he implored. "Don't, don't, don't!" his voice rising quaveringly. "You know how 'tis with me. Please don't. I don't want it."

"It'll do you good," inflexibly. "You are getting thin from going without it so long, and it's better to enjoy the stuff trickling down your throat slow than to have it poured down in bottles full. You know what we say goes, Billy, and you must drink the whole thing."

Billy dropped upon his knees. "Don't," he repeated dully. "I don't want to. If I smell I can't stop then. You and me's been good friends, O'Neil, and I've danced and—and drunk a lot for you. Let me off this time. And—and, if you don't mind, I'd like to say why."

"Oh, let the poor devil make his confession, O'Neil," interposed one of the cowboys good naturedly. "You know how 'tis with Patterpat. If he smells, as he says, he won't stop easy. It'll be two months before he sobers up. Let him start in right."

Billy shot him a grateful look. "It's like this," he said, with a pathetic eagerness in his voice. "Six months ago I happened to be up in the country, and I saved a girl's life. She was caught by a bear, and—and I suppose I acted some brave. Anyhow, she and her folks thought so and took me in. Since then I've been up there, and I ain't tasted a drop, and I've been feelin' that maybe I could make something of myself some time, like I used to think a—long while ago."

There was a little catch in his voice; then he went on in lower tones: "Me and the girl was to be married. I came down today for a ring and license. They believe in me up there, and I've joined in with them, and—his eyes suddenly becoming steady and aggressive at a giggle from one of the cowboys—"if 'twan't for the whisky I believe I could be a good man again—a better one than you could ever be, Danny. But, of course"—his voice again dropping and his hand reaching mechanically toward the bottle—"this will finish it all. Up there they don't have anything strong to drink, and—and they never suspected I was that way. When they find this out it'll be over with us. I'll run through myself soon's I can, and—and the girl and they'll feel sorry, but you'll have your dance carnival. So we won't all lose. Now you can give me the bottle, O'Neil."

But O'Neil was holding the bottle up between his own eyes and the sun. "Seems a pity to spill such good stuff," he said regretfully, "but it's got to be." Then in a louder voice: "Here, you fellers, see that stone over 'tother side the street? Well, every one who's got a bottle shy at that, and the one who breaks into the most pieces will go with Billy to see about the ring and license. Then we'll all club in for a present and"—

Billy's head went up suddenly. His eyes were moist.

"No, no," he protested; "I don't want no present, gentlemen. I've been working hard up there and have got some ahead. I'm all right long's I can keep away from that stuff."

"Shut up, Billy!" O'Neil retorted ungraciously. "Tain't you; it's a present for the bride. And I reckon we'd better make it two of our best ponies. They'll be handy's anything up among them Mennonite farmers. Now, fellers, one; two, three, and crash!" And with the last word a half dozen or more bottles delivered from as many unerring hands crashed against the stone.

A Considerate Judge.

Baron Martin, an English justice, whose native leniency and sense of fun often placed him at the mercy of the very men he was trying, was once about to sentence an old offender charged with a petty theft.

"Look," said the baron, with an assumption of severity, "I hardly know what to do, but you can tak' six months."

"I can't take that, my lord; it's too much," said the prisoner respectfully, but firmly. "I can't take it. Your lordship sees I didn't steal very much, after all."

The baron indulged in one of his low, chuckling laughs before replying.

"Well, that's vera true; ye didn't steal much," he said. "Well, then, ye can tak' four months. Will that do—four months?"

"Nay, my lord, but I can't take that neither," said the prisoner patiently.

"Then tak' three."

"That's nearer the mark, my lord," the prisoner said approvingly. "But I'd rather you made it two, if you will be so kind."

"Vera well, then, tak' two," said the judge, with the air of one who is pleased to have done the right thing at last.

"And, mind, don't come again. If you do I'll give ye—well, it all depends!"

The Customary Climax.

Nordy—How did the new play end? Butts—Oh, in the usual way. Nordy—And what do you call the usual end? Butts—In a whirl of hats and feathers and open cloaks.—Houston Chronicle.

HAS STOOD THE TEST 25 YEARS

The old, original GROVE'S Tasteless Chill Tonic. You know what you are taking. It is iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure, no pay. 50c.

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company.

SALE of Unclaimed and Refused Freight.

Fayetteville, N. C., Feb'y 20th, 1905.

By direction of the Freight Claim Agent, I will sell at Public Auction on MONDAY, MARCH 20th, 1905, at the Atlantic Coast Line "Old Hoss" Warehouse, in Fayetteville, N. C., the following list of unclaimed and refused articles of freight; also, a large quantity of freight of various kinds.

Goods sold without guarantee of quality, quantity or value. Sale will commence at 10 o'clock a. m., and continue from day to day until goods are sold. **TERMS: CASH.** J. A. HUSKE, Route Agent.

- No 1 4 pieces F iron..... No marks, Lumber Bridge, N C
- 2 1 box bread..... " Kinston, N C
- 3 3 brls vinegar..... " " "
- 11 1 bale domestic..... " Lake City, Fla
- 12 1 package hardware..... N L Stafford Walthowville, Ga
- 13 1 box tinware..... " " "
- 16 1 package sash..... No marks Lotts S C
- 8 sash weights..... " " "
- 17 1 rocker..... Inteseaken Fla
- 18 1 mower..... J L McDonald Lamar S C
- 19 1 case whips..... C M Spear do do
- 1 case hardware..... do do do
- 20 3 boxes drugs..... No marks Meigs Ga
- 2 boxes glass..... do do do
- 21 39 eastings..... do do do
- 22 2 pieces D pipe..... J A McKay Benson N C
- 3 sacks C seed..... J C Johnson do do
- 1 package castings..... M Cox do do
- 1 bundle cushions..... F S Cobb do do
- 25 2 barrels glass ware..... R M Hodges & Co Gates N C
- 26 1 sack C seed..... Henry Anderson do do
- 30 1 crate marble..... E C Miller McIntosh Ga
- 1 Headstone..... do do do
- 34 11 pieces tobacco flue..... No marks Fremont N C
- 35 1 baby carriage..... Hanks Goldsboro do do
- 37 2 boxes soap..... No marks Benson do do
- 38 3 pails paint..... Blount Bros Williamston N C
- 1 box adv matter..... J E Carter do do
- 1 post..... J G Stator do do
- 40 1 piece iron..... J M Pope do do
- 44 1 bundle adv matter..... C A Ward do do
- 1 "Mt" barrel..... W B Moseley do do
- 45 1 box scrap..... Geo W Sugg Kinston do do
- 46 1 bundle signs..... L Harvey & Son do do
- 1 circular..... do do do
- 49 1 bundle m frames..... No marks Rowland do do
- 50 1 piece castings..... Cape Fear Lumber Co Wilmington N C
- 51 1 box clothing..... Mrs Hattie Faison do do
- 54 2 kegs vinegar..... W H Moore do do
- 1 e fauet..... do do do
- 56 1 box..... P Cummings do do
- 59 1 barrel jelly..... No mark Punta Gooda Fla do do
- 60 1 box cartridges..... do Goldsboro N C
- 61 2 boxes S leaven..... Avery & Taylor Jacksonville N C
- 62 1 p sa w cuffs..... W H Malloy do do
- 63 3 K D safes..... o-n A Reece do do
- 64 2 empty kegs..... o-n G M Barber & Co do do
- 85 2 empty kegs..... do do do
- 86 2 empty kegs..... do do do
- 82 2 barrels lamps..... G S Tucker & Co Wilson do do
- 1 box lamps..... do do do
- 83 1 rocker..... No mark Bennettsville S C
- 1 box coffins..... do do do
- 2 boxes window glass..... do do do
- 84 1 farm bell and fixtures..... o-n J T Henderson Jacksonville N C
- 87 1 load tobacco..... No mark Jamesville N C
- 89 5 bundles brooms..... do do do
- 90 1 e pants..... do do do
- 92 3 bags bobbins..... do Williamston N C
- 95 1 box F netting..... do Ashepole do do
- 97 1 box pants..... do Sanford do do
- 100 1 show case..... T L Gibson Gibson N C
- 101 1 show case..... No mark do do do
- 1 box glass..... do do do
- 1 stand..... do do do
- 103 7 kegs paint..... do Maxton do do
- 1 can paint..... do do do
- 104 1 show case..... No marks Newberry Fla do do
- 2 boxes drugs..... do do do
- 105 1 tool chest..... do Jacksonville N C
- 106 1 bundle o baskets..... do Scotland Neck N C
- 110 1 can L oil..... T J B Nashville do do
- 111 1 bundle p matter..... T W Braswell Nashville do do
- 1 bundle signs..... do do do
- 112 1 box drills..... "o-n 6315" do do do
- 114 3 crts marble..... No mark Fair Bluff N C
- 119 1 box p boxes..... do Weldon do do
- 120 5 boxes soap..... J M Shepard Wadesboro do do
- 121 1 sewing machine..... Cash Buyers' Union Wadesboro N C
- 122 1 lot H N goods..... N Thompson do do
- 123 1 organ, boxed..... Mrs T B Hall do do
- 125 1 ert E work..... J W McCay Pot Co do do
- 128 2 bundles p handles..... No mark Maysville N C
- 130 1 bag cattle food..... do do do
- 131 1 anger..... do Jacksonville N C
- 133 1 cotton planter..... do Fair Bluff N C
- 134 1 box a food..... do Wilson N C
- 135f box hardware..... do do do
- 136 1 box incubators..... W W Gibson Red Springs N C
- 1 coil wire..... do do do
- 1 box F paper..... W E Carr do do
- 138 1 box books..... o-n W A Hart do do
- 143 1 box dry goods..... Ed Christian Goldsboro N C
- 144 3 boxes drugs..... do do do
- 146 4 cads tobacco..... do Currie N C
- 1 e smoking tobacco..... do Wallace N C
- 147 1 bale domestic..... do do do
- 152 1 harvester sign..... do Lake City S C
- 2 oats grinders..... do do do
- 2 crts frames..... do do do
- 153 1 brl cakes..... Mrs J S White Plymouth N C
- 154 3 e blacking..... No mark Weldon N C
- 156 3 crts pie frame s..... Fay Furniture Co Fayetteville N C
- 157 1 nest baskets..... Fay, Furniture Co., Fayetteville, N. C.
- 2 crates baskets..... do do do
- 159 7 boxes castings..... A H Slocomb do do
- 160 1 package bed rail..... S Sheets & Son, do do
- 163 1 case E ware..... W T Macon, Wilson, N. C. do do
- 164 1 box P medicine..... do do do
- 165 1 box hardware..... B B & Co., do do
- 170 1 box books..... J H Hancock, Jacksonville, N. C. do do
- 171 1 box grip books..... No mark, Goldsboro, N. C. do do
- 180 1 box marble..... do Gates N C do do
- 186 8 bundles B eastings..... Roberts, Dunn, N. C. do do
- 191 1 crate marble..... E H Williams, Tarboro, N. C. do do
- 198 6 pieces pipe..... No mark, Effingham, S. C. do do
- 3 bundles P beans..... do Enfield, N. C. do do
- 205 2 boxes..... do Tarboro, N. C. do do
- 212 1 box P medicine..... Brown & Co., Lake City, S. C. do do
- 213 1 bundle iron bed..... No mark, do do
- 1 bundle rails..... do do

- 219 1 tool chest
- 222 1 circular saw
- 226 1 box
- 229 1 case cotton fabric
- 230 1 box drugs
- 231 1 crate S ware
- 232 1 desk
- 233 1 box A food
- 2 3 pails A food
- 234 3 pieces S pipe
- 1 bundle 2 wheels
- 235 1 tierce G ware
- 236 1 trunk
- 237 1 box scales
- 238 1 bundle castings
- 239 1 trunk
- 240 1 show case
- 1 box glass
- 241 1 bdl paper
- 242 1 do do
- 243 1 do do
- 244 1 do do
- 245 1 sign
- 247 1 trunk books
- 248 1 bicycle
- 249 1 bdl rubber tires
- 250 1 keg hardware
- 252 1 bbl fertilizers
- 253 1 bdl paper
- 254 1 box P effects
- 257 1 box scales
- 259 1 e clothing
- 262 crate picture frames
- 263 1 roll carpet
- 264 1 bdl wheels
- 1 crate bodies
- 265 1 box Cobblers outfit
- 1 bundle handles
- 269 1 barrel P paris
- 270 1 piece marble
- 1 pail snuff
- 1 box medicine
- 1 box hardware
- 2 boxes almanacs
- 1 bundle castings
- 271 3 packages (13 cads) tobacco
- 272 1 boat
- 276 3 crates marble
- 278 6 e Beans
- 280 1 bdl bed ends
- 281 1 bhd crockery
- 282 3 boxes drugs
- 2 boxes G ware
- 284 1 barrel P beverage
- 287 2 boxes L fittings
- 1 box G lamps
- 1 barrel lamps
- 288 1 barrel vinegar
- 282 1 e bottles
- 293 1 cotton gin
- 294 1 box Groe
- 1 box clocks
- 4 boxes 2 packages clocks
- 297 4 pieces pipe
- 298 1 w stool
- 301 1 bdl chain
- 304 1 box C powders
- 305 2 pieces ladder
- 306 1 box picture frames
- 310 1 box balusters
- 311 1 bag wool
- 312 1 barrel vinegar
- 320 1 barrel vinegar
- 323 3 boxes drugs
- 324 1 bdl (3 pieces) steel
- 325 1 R chair
- 326 1 caso extracts
- 328 1 caso color
- 329 1 e clothing
- 330 2 barrels E paint
- 1 e adv matter
- 331 1 e soap
- 333 3 rolls w paper
- 1 bdl moulding
- 1 box paint
- 3 boxes w paper
- 334 1 box clothing
- 336 1 box dry goods
- 337 1 hhd E ware
- 338 2 crates gutter pipe
- 340 1 table
- 341 1 bundle wheels
- 342 2 crates marble
- 343 1 crate picture frames
- 344 1 box drugs
- 2 door frames
- 350 1 box I P forgings
- 351 2 boxes soap
- 355 5 boxes picture frames
- 356 1 cultivator
- 2 old plows
- 1 bundle hames
- 357 1 sack land plaster
- 360 1 teacher's chair
- 1 "mt" barrel
- 361 1 iron bell
- 1 bundle castings
- 1 crate I C screws
- 6 keelns
- 1 box books
- 362 1 box glass
- 3 packages
- 363 5 pails A food
- 1 case scales
- 8 bundles buckets
- 364 1 barrel L oil
- 1 keg A grease
- 6 cans paint
- 369 1 bundle (2) gates
- 44 pieces posts
- 2 boxes hardware
- 3 spools wire
- 370 1 case bats
- 371 9 rolls fence wire
- 373 1 roll bagu
- 1 bundle ties
- 1 trunk
- 374 1 boxes drugs
- 383 1 barrel molasses
- 389 10 pieces furnace
- 3 bundles iron
- 1 piece pipe
- 390 1 bundle hat boxes
- 391 1 bale cot duck
- 392 2 crates galv oil cans
- 393 10 crates galv oil cans
- 394 1 bundle sau paper

Notice to Delinquent Tax-payers

All unpaid State, County and Special Taxes have been past due since November 1st. Every tax-payer is urgently requested to come forward immediately and settle up. The law directs the Sheriff to proceed to levy for all unpaid taxes after November 1st. Unless delinquents come forward promptly, we will be compelled to levy, as the taxes are past due and must be paid.

Give this matter prompt attention and save extra cost of collection by levy.

W. H. MARSH,
Sheriff of Cumberland County,
Fayetteville, N. C., Nov'r 19, '04.

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure
Digests what you eat.

During these Cold Winter Months
a trip to
FLORIDA-CUBA
via the
Atlantic Coast Line

would be just the thing to make life worth the living.

Superb trains, excellent schedules and tickets which offer every advantage possible for a pleasant and attractive trip. For full information or pamphlets call on your nearest ticket agent, or write
W. J. CRAIG, G. P. A.,
R. M. EMERSON, T. M.,
Wilmington, N. C.