

BOWSER'S HARD CIDER

No Samples a Gallon Sent by a Friend and the Result is Clearcut

[Copyright, 1903, by C. B. Lewis.]
THE Bowers had just finished dinner the other evening when the expressman drove up with a two gallon jug which was tagged in Mr. Bowser's name. The cork being removed and the contents sampled, he smacked his lips and exclaimed:

"This must be hard cider. I had a letter way along last fall from an old friend in Chemung county, and I remember that he hinted about sending me down a jug of something good later on. By John, but the taste of it brings back the days when I used to walk three miles to the cider mill! The old days are gone never to return, but here in the cider, and I'd rather have it than so much champagne."

"I have heard that hard cider was almost as bad as whisky to intoxicate," observed Mrs. Bowser as Mr. Bowser got away with his second glass within five minutes.

"That's all nonsense. There isn't enough alcohol in a barrel of it to affect the brains of a canary bird. Um! But that is old times! I feel almost as if I were climbing apple trees again. If we only had a pumpkin pie now, I'd feel myself an Uncle Rube."

Mr. Bowser read his paper for ten minutes and then descended to the dining room to see if the gas was turned out. He decided to kill two birds with one stone, and a third glass of hard cider followed the second and first. A quarter of an hour later the jug was tipped up for the fourth time within forty minutes, and soon after he came upstairs he began to grin and chuckle.

"Anything funny happen today?" queried Mrs. Bowser after a sharp look at him.

"Yes. A fat man was running to catch a car, and—ha, ha, ha—it was mean to laugh at him, but when he fell over a dog and rolled over and over how could any one help but—ha, ha, ha!"

"I wouldn't drink any more of that cider this evening if I were you."

"What's the matter with the cider? Ha, ha, ha! Say, now, look at our old cat. Isn't she a perfect picture of domestic contentment! With a dear little wife at my elbow and a blamed old cat on the hearth rug ought to be a happy husband, eh? I think the basement door may be open, and I'll go down and see."

"I'll call the girl."

"No, I'll go. Yes, she's a nice old cat, and you are a dear little wife, and if you'd see that fat man fall over that dog you'd have gone into a ha, ha, ha!"

The basement door was not open. That cider jug was, however, and Mr. Bowser took advantage of the occasion. As he was all alone and in no hurry he drank a couple of glasses, and the taste carried him back to the days when harvest apples gave him the colic. He smiled to himself while drinking, but when he returned to the sitting room Mrs. Bowser noticed that

"I can't weep over all the sad things I hear. In this case I suppose the building was about ready to fall anyhow. Won't you lie down?"

"And there was the old oak under which we used to gather acorns," continued Mr. Bowser as his face grew redder and more tears came. "They have gone and cut down that dear old tree and put up a windmill in its place. How dare they do it? It was under the um-um-umbrageous branches of that old oak that I first told you of my love; that you told me my love was returned. I wanted to buy that tree and preserve it under a glass case, but they have cut it down and sold it for stove wood."

"It's too bad," said Mrs. Bowser. "But don't you think you'd better go to bed now? I don't think you are feeling very well."

"No, I'm not feeling well. Do you know, I feel that I won't live to bother any one much longer? I shall be found dead in my bed some morning, and that will be the end of it. I did want to see that dear old hill again, the spot where I first told you of my love as we were sliding down hill, but it cannot be. Do you know, they have torn that hill down and made a graveyard on the spot? How could they do it—how could they?"

"Well, we are sorry, but we can't help it, and I think you'd better go to bed now. You know you were up late last night."

"Go to bed? Never! How can I go to bed when I know that the dear old horse pond in which I first told you of my love has been cut up and sold by the piece? Such things sink deep into my heart, and if you were a true hearted woman you would be weeping instead of sitting there like a log of wood. You wouldn't care if all the dear old things of your childhood were trampled over for turnips."

"Where are you going?" asked Mrs. Bowser as he started down the hall.

"Where am I going? I'm going to find some one who can sympathize with me and understand my feelings. You can sit there, with your heart of stone, and the blamed old cat can sit there with you, but I—"

He put on his hat and overcoat and went out. The cold night wind dried his tears, but at the same time it set that hard cider working up in the top of his head, and Mr. Bowser had only reached the corner when he had to reach out for the fence. What happened to him in the next quarter of an hour was told by the policeman who brought him home.

"Madam," he said as Mrs. Bowser answered his ring at the bell, "is this your husband?"

"Yes," she replied as Mr. Bowser assisted into the hall.

"His name is Bowser, isn't it?"

"Yes."

"Yes; name's Bowser," mused the culprit as he leaned up against the wall and stared around.

"Has anything happened to unhinge his mind?" continued the officer. "I

In Coils of A Snake

Desperate Fight For Life In the Jungles of Dutch Guiana.

How an American Prospector Overcame a Huge Boa Constrictor—A Lucky Shot In the Nick of Time.

J. S. Hendrickson of Fernando, Cal., while prospecting for gold in the wilds of Dutch Guiana last year came near losing his life in the folds of a huge boa constrictor. Mr. Hendrickson thus describes his awful experience:

Leaving the camp to look for game to replenish our larder, I entered a jungle, my knife in my right hand to cut the entanglement of underbrush and my



THE SNAKE TIGHTENED ITS COILS.

shotgun in my left. Instantly, without the least warning—no rattle, no rustle, no grunt—I felt myself struck with some tremendous force that laid hold of my body with the grasp of a Goliath. The impetus of the attack carried me sprawling to the ground. I was in the coils of a boa constrictor. The snake had wrapped its long, sinuous arm about me and, with its tail securely coiled about a tree as an anchor, proceeded to pull in its prey.

A numbness seized me as the huge serpent tightened its coils. In falling my knife was thrown from my hand. My shotgun fortunately still remained ready for use. Terrified beyond measure by this awful hand stretched out in death dealing embrace, the determination of despair came to my rescue as I thought of my two comrades waiting my return.

The boa in striking had lapped its body around me, stretching about three feet from the head, so its horrible head, swayed near my own and seemed to mock at my helplessness.

Every instant now was precious. I could feel myself slowly moving toward destruction. The serpent's hold seemed tighter than a rope around a windlass. It was an utter impossibility to release it.

Shuddering at my impotency, I raised my shotgun to my left shoulder, and with all the skill I could muster I aimed at the boa's wriggling body, hoping to break it in two by the force of the shot at such close range. The kick of the gun was followed immediately by a tremendous lashing and writhing of my tormentor, and I knew that my shot had taken effect, although where I could not discern till the smoke cleared.

Already gloriing in my release, I soon found that I was reckoning without my boa constrictor. Although the No. 10 shot had torn its shattering way through the entrails, it had not severed the body, and the boa seemed to draw a new wounded body in a tighter grip about my fettered form.

Hitherto the boa, content with its terrible power of constriction, had not attempted the with its teeth. Now when it knew its gripping power was fast ebbing away from the effects of the wound it came upon me with gaping mouth, which threatened new danger for me. But as I had drawn the first blood in the encounter with the almy monster, my courage seemed to increase.

It was out of the question to reload the gun. I scoured the ground for my knife. I managed to grasp it and struggled with my feet just as the hissing head, with mouth distended, made a savage lunge at me. In my overanxiety to bury the knife deep into the monster's head and put myself out of jeopardy with the first stroke I missed my aim, and the infuriated serpent bit my left arm slightly. With his wicked eyes gleaming it came at me again.

This time my hand was steeper, and I sank my knife into its head with telling effect. Again and again I stabbed the now weakening monster, gloating in my triumph as my antagonist's attacks decreased.

In a few moments more the fight was over, and I had completely severed the serpent's head from its crippled body.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*

W. T. PARROTT, Ph. G., M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

KINSTON, N. C.

OFFICE HOURS: 9 to 10 a. m. and 8 to 9 p. m.

Telephone calls: House 24, Office 78.

If your watch or clock doesn't keep time carry it to **FELIX SUTTON**, in Hotel Tull building, Kinston, and he'll fix it.

IF YOU WANT A **Pump Repaired**

or a new one put down, or Awnings put up, or a Sign painted call on me at **BELL'S SHOPS**, two blocks east of A. & N. C. depot.

JULIUS BELL.

LOT OF **Fresh Groceries** ON HAND AT ALL TIMES

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Architect

KINSTON & NEWBERN, N. C.

Notices left at the office of **J. W. Grainger** will receive prompt attention.

You May Count

Printing an Expense, But Good Printing is an Investment.

The printing we do more than pays for itself in the favorable impression it gives others of the office or business house from which it emanates.

The Free Press Co.

REDUCED RATES VIA Atlantic Coast Line.

Southern Educational Conference, Richmond, Va.

Tickets on sale from points in Virginia, April 25th, 26th and 27th. Final limit April 28th, 1903. From all other points, April 30th and final limit April 29th. One and one third fares.

Southern Baptist Convention and Auxiliary Societies, Savannah, Ga.

Tickets on sale from all points at one fare for round trip, plus 25 cents, May 4th to 7th, inclusive. Final limit May 20th, 1903. An extension of the final limit until June 1st may be obtained by deposit of tickets with Joint Agent at Savannah, on payment of fee of 50 cents.

United Confederate Veterans Reunion, New Orleans, La.

Tickets on sale May 16th to 21st, inclusive. Final limit May 31st, 1903. An extension of the final limit to June 1st may be obtained by deposit of tickets with Joint Agent at New Orleans on payment of fee of 50 cents. Rate one cent per mile.

Call on Ticket Agents for exact rates and any other information, and see that your tickets read via the **ATLANTIC COAST LINE.**

Approved: **W. J. CRAIG**, General Passenger Agent. **E. M. EMERSON**, Traffic Manager.

A. & N. C. RAILROAD CO. TIME TABLE NO. 28

In effect Sunday, Nov. 9, 1902, at 7:30 a. m.

WESTBOUND TRAINS.

Station	7:30 A. M.	10:30 A. M.	1:30 P. M.	4:30 P. M.	7:30 P. M.
Goldsboro—arrive	11:00	1:00	4:00	7:00	10:00
LaGrange	10:30	12:30	3:30	6:30	9:30
Falling Creek	10:00	12:00	3:00	6:00	9:00
Kinston	9:30	11:30	2:30	5:30	8:30
Durham	9:00	11:00	2:00	5:00	8:00
Core Creek	8:30	10:30	1:30	4:30	7:30
Newbern	8:00	10:00	1:00	4:00	7:00
Wilmington	7:30	9:30	12:30	3:30	6:30
Morehead City	7:00	9:00	12:00	3:00	6:00
Morehead City Depot	6:30	8:30	11:30	2:30	5:30

EASTBOUND TRAINS.

Station	7:30 A. M.	10:30 A. M.	1:30 P. M.	4:30 P. M.	7:30 P. M.
Goldsboro—leave	7:30	10:30	1:30	4:30	7:30
LaGrange	8:00	11:00	4:00	7:00	10:00
Falling Creek	8:30	11:30	4:30	7:30	10:30
Durham	9:00	12:00	5:00	8:00	11:00
Core Creek	9:30	12:30	5:30	8:30	11:30
Newbern	10:00	1:00	6:00	9:00	12:00
Wilmington	10:30	1:30	6:30	9:30	12:30
Morehead City	11:00	2:00	7:00	10:00	1:00
Morehead City Depot	11:30	2:30	7:30	10:30	1:30

Dissolution Notice.

Z. Edwards, H. C. V. Peebles and C. H. Pool, proprietors of the Kinston Sash and Blind Co., have this day dissolved partnership. Z. Edwards assuming full control of the business, also assuming all liabilities and assets of the Kinston Sash and Blind Co.

Z. EDWARDS, H. C. V. PEEBLES, C. H. POOL. March 27, 1903.

Fresh Medicines

CONSTANTLY COMING IN. I make a specialty of keeping the purest and best in the city.

Also a full supply of **GARDEN SEEDS** Fresh and Genuine. Call and see me.

HENRY DUNN, Registered Pharmacist.

Phone 147.

EAT TO LIVE

is no doubt the proper maxim, but just the same you want what you do eat to be of first-class quality and

A Visit to My Store

will convince you that my variety and quality of table delicacies are equal to those of any city grocery.

Staple Groceries at bottom prices.

W. D. LaRoque, Jr.

UP TO-DATE GROCER

Phone 67. Kinston, N. C.

Notice of Election.

Under and by virtue of a resolution of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Kinston, N. C., passed April 1st, 1903, and in pursuance of and conformity with the provisions of law contained in an act of the General Assembly of North Carolina at its regular session of 1903, entitled "An Act to Amend the Act entitled 'An Act to Amend the Charter of the Town of Kinston, in the county of Lenoir, North Carolina,' being act of 1900, Chapter 193, notice is hereby given that a special election will be held at the court house in Kinston, N. C., on Monday, the 4th day of May, 1903, being the first Monday in May, for the purpose of obtaining the consent and approval of a majority of the qualified voters of said town, to issue the bonds of said town of Kinston, in the county of Lenoir, North Carolina, being act of 1900, Chapter 193, notice is hereby given that a special election will be held at the court house in Kinston, N. 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