

**ONE WILDCAT BY POST.**

**A Plot by Humorous Citizens of Guntown to Get Rid of a Postmaster.**

GUNTOWN, N. M., Oct. 8.—The postmaster here died about a year ago, and considerable trouble has been experienced in finding a new one who would be satisfactory and competent. For a long time there was no appointment, the diminutive weekly mail being opened on arrival by the first man who happened to get it. At length the people concluded to petition for the appointment of Sim Duff, who keeps a saloon here. He was a Jackson Democrat, and his standing in the community was good. The only other men in town who had the facilities for keeping the office were another saloon keeper named Fritz and a grocer, who also kept liquor, named Beebe. As the request for Duff's appointment was almost unanimous it was supposed that he would get the place, but after a while Beebe was appointed, as the special agent at Santa Fe explained, because Duff kept a saloon, and it was against the policy of the administration to appoint saloon keepers. That made everybody mad. Beebe had never been popular, was unable to read or write, and was, moreover, a very stupid fellow, not more than half witted, as some people said.

To get even with all hands the citizens held a meeting and put up a job, which was some time in coming to a head. Beebe, in the meantime, had received his commission and was doing his best with the mails. One day last week old Herrick Price, who used to live in Tennessee, drove up in front of Beebe's place, hitched his horses, and yanked a young wildcat out of his wagon. The beast was frisky and ugly, but apparently not dangerous. On his collar was a card bearing the address: To the President of the United States, from the grateful Democratic citizens of Guntown, N. M.: A natural curiosity, Democratic from tip to tip. Feed him and treat him gently. He is used to luxury.

Pulling the beast into the postoffice, old man Price asked what the postage on him would be. Beebe didn't know. He had never handled any wildcats before. Well, Price had. He had mailed one to Mr. Arthur, and before his day the boys had sent a bear to Gen. Grant. He wanted to know what the tax would be. Beebe opened a book and pretended to read. Then he looked at the wildcat, and next at Price. At length he stammered out something to the effect that it would probably be about ten stamps. Price bought the stamps, stuck them on the cat's collar, and turned him over to the postmaster, with an injunction to be careful of him.

That afternoon when the mail carrier came along he refused to take the animal. Beebe swore that he should, because the postage had been paid. The driver said he would lick Beebe first, whereupon the postmaster, who was a man of high temper, struck the driver in the face. A fight ensued, and while it was in progress the wildcat got mad and ran into the grocery, where he crawled under a counter. When Beebe and the mail carrier had settled their differences, the former went after the cat, but was soon warned by the animal's demeanor that intimacy with him was not safe. By this time the town was on the outside watching the fun.

The driver and Beebe tried various experiments in the hope of getting the beast out, but without success, until at length they hit upon the plan of putting a big leather mail bag near him with a piece of meat in it, the idea being that he would dash into the bag for the meat and they could then close it quickly and thus have him securely done up for his long journey. The plan worked to perfection, and a few minutes later the crowd in front had the pleasure of seeing the driver and Beebe emerge, carrying the bag containing the compliments of the citizens of Guntown. To simplify matters Beebe had attached to the bag a card on which the mail carrier had written:

1 WILD CAT INCIDE. POST PAID.

When the bag had been deposited in the wagon and the driver had whipped up his horses and vanished, the citizens called on Beebe and congratulated him on his success in his new place. Then all hands went away and awaited developments.

These came to-day, when a special agent arrived, deposited Beebe, and commissioned Duff as postmaster. He said it was a choice of evils, but that in a town like this it was necessary to have a man who knew the difference between fourth class matter and live stock. When the wildcat in the bag reached Santa Fe nobody would touch the beast, and at length, on the advice of citizens, the mail carrier threw the whole outfit into a cistern, from which the bag and the defunct wildcat were fished the next morning. Duff is now doing the honors here for the United States government, and everybody is happy except Beebe.—New York Sun.

**A Sure Sign.**

"Do you think that Col. Yerger is going to run again for the legislature?" asked an Austin gentleman of a friend.  
"I know that he is."  
"Did he tell you so?"  
"No."  
"Then, how do you know he is going to run again?"  
"You see, I live near him, and his wife is beginning to pay back tea and coffee they borrowed a year ago, just after he was defeated. He is beginning already to win over the dissatisfied element of his party."—Texas Springs.

What's the postage on him? would be. Beebe didn't know. He had never handled any wildcats before. Well, Price had. He had mailed one to Mr. Arthur, and before his day the boys had sent a bear to Gen. Grant. He wanted to know what the tax would be. Beebe opened a book and pretended to read. Then he looked at the wildcat, and next at Price. At length he stammered out something to the effect that it would probably be about ten stamps. Price bought the stamps, stuck them on the cat's collar, and turned him over to the postmaster, with an injunction to be careful of him.

**NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF—Land Office at Fargo, D. T., Aug. 30, 1886.**

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and secure final entry thereof, viz: Anton Beck, D. T. S. No. 15,421 for the s.w. 1/4 of sec. 6 and w. 1/4 of sec. 7, tp. 14n. r. 60w. and names the following as his witnesses, viz: Harrison Clark, A. D. Ellis, Boise H. Leine, Joseph S. Hays, all of Willow, Griggs county, D. T. The testimony of claimant and witnesses to be taken before Geo. B. Clark, judge and ex-officio clerk of district court at Cooperstown, Griggs county, D. T. on the 9th day of October, A. D. 1886, at his office. HORACE AUSTIN, Register. 37-38

**NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF—Land Office at Fargo, D. T., October 15th, 1886.**

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and secure final entry thereof, viz: Mathias O. Helstad, H. E. No. 9271, for the northwest quarter of Sec. 28, tp. 147 n., r. 57 w., and names the following as his witnesses, viz: John Hansen, Ole C. Bjergstad, Gauder O. Johnson, John H. Olson, all of Marshall, D. T., Griggs county, D. T. The testimony of claimant and witnesses to be taken before A. T. Drakely, judge of probate court at Shakopee, Stearns county, D. T. on the 10th day of December, A. D. 1886, at his office. HORACE AUSTIN, Register. J. O. OIL, Attorney. [First publication Oct. 22, 1886.]

**NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF—Land Office at Fargo, D. T., Sept. 22, 1886.**

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and secure final entry thereof, viz: Joel Jameson, D. T. S. No. 16,176 for the n.w. 1/4 and w. 1/4 of sec. 34, tp. 148 n. r. 60w. and names the following as his witnesses, viz: Wm. Stringer, Peter Cameron, Harrison Clark and Gideon Sheldon, all of Willow, Griggs county, D. T. The testimony of claimant and witnesses to be taken before Geo. B. Clark, judge and ex-officio clerk of probate court at Cooperstown, Griggs county, D. T. on the 6th day of November, A. D. 1886, at his office. And you, Andrew A. Berg, who filed D. T. S. No. 16,088, on the 24th day of May 1884, are hereby notified to be and appear before the U. S. land office at Fargo, D. T. on the 10th day of Nov. 1886, and show cause, if any you have, why said Joel Jameson should not be allowed to make final proof and payment for said land. HORACE AUSTIN, Register. 37-38 J. O. OIL, Attorney.

**NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF—Land Office at Fargo, D. T., September 27th, 1886.**

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and secure final entry thereof, viz: Ole S. Moen, of Cooperstown P. O., Griggs county, D. T., Matt Hiller, of Cooperstown P. O., Griggs county, D. T., and Alex Moen, of Ottawa P. O., Griggs county, D. T. The testimony of claimant and witnesses to be taken before John N. Jorgenson, clerk of the district court at Cooperstown, Griggs county, D. T. on the 18th day of November, A. D. 1886, at his office. HORACE AUSTIN, Register. 37-38 J. O. OIL, Attorney.

**NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF—Land Office at Fargo, D. T., Aug. 25, 1886.**

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of her intention to make final proof in support of her claim and secure entry thereof, viz: Adeline Post, H. E. No. 16,208, for the s.w. 1/4 of sec. 4, tp. 147 n. r. 56 w. and names the following as her witnesses, viz: George Wright, Daniel A. Langworthy, George W. Vennum, Archibald McKechnie, all of Stutsman county, D. T. The testimony of witnesses to be taken before Hon. W. H. Francis, or Charles T. Hillis, clerk of the district court at Jamestown, Stutsman county, D. T. on the 14th day of October, A. D. 1886, at his office. HORACE AUSTIN, Register.

**NOTICE OF FINAL PROOF—Land Office at Fargo, D. T., Oct. 6, 1886.**

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and secure final entry thereof, viz: Charles E. Cooper, H. E. No. 16,831, for the s.w. 1/4 of sec. 1, and w. 1/2 of sec. 25, tp. 146 n. r. 59 west and names the following as his witnesses, viz: John L. Houghton, Jack N. Brown, Charles Plunk, Willard Houghton, all of Cooperstown post office, Griggs county, D. T. The testimony of claimant and witnesses to be taken before George B. Clark, judge and ex-officio clerk of the probate court, Cooperstown, Griggs county, D. T. on the 13th day of November, A. D. 1886, at his office. HORACE AUSTIN, Register. 37-38 GLASS & MACLAREN, Attorneys.

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**NOTICE OF PROBATE—Land office at Fargo, D. T. Sept. 27, 1886.**

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and secure final entry thereof, viz: Jonas M. Freer, H. E. No. 8728, for the n.e. 1/4 of sec. 8, tp. 14n. r. 58w. and names the following as his witnesses, viz: John A. McGuire, Thomas Curtis, Charles M. Curtis, Olof A. Ostland, all of Cooperstown, Griggs county, D. T. The testimony of claimant and witnesses to be taken before Geo. B. Clark, judge of the probate court at Cooperstown, Griggs county, D. T. on the 9th day of November, A. D. 1886, at his office. HORACE AUSTIN, Register. Glass & MacLaren, attys. 37-38

**(Copy) Chicago, Arrn. 21st, 1886.**

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