

and his Dog wouldnt leave him eny more that Night.he had a shot gun.and an Ax.with him.He sed.he sed that he shot at it once as it crossed the fence.the last time that he seen it.cross the fence. the his Dog wouldnt leave him eny more that Night.and he took off Home. Well.that was the last time that eny one ever herd of it in and around that Country.it either was just leaveing out of that Country.or l hit it and it got deeper back in the hills and died.

it had been killing Farmers Stock.Calvs.Sheep. Pigs.for miles around through that part of the Country.but l guess that/that wild hill Billy. Boy.put an end to their Stock killer, The Farmers all Through.Christen Country. claimed.that herd about mine and its round.sed that l.had put a bullet in it.and it probly made it out of Christen County.and got in to. Todd.County.

around what is called.the Pilot Rock.there are bigger Mountions.through that Country. than they are in Christen County.probely made it in there and died in some Den in there.for it never did show up in there eny more.but that. was my last year them hills.on my Grandmothers. Old place.

for that Fall.it come moveing time again.with us. that time.l moved out to stay out of there. we moved too where we could see the sun come up in the Morneing.and see it go down in the evening. but it made the days seem aufely long to me. it looked like the sun would just get in one. long in the evening.and just hang there. that was the year of 1901.back out on the hiway. Seven miles from Hopkinsville.K Y.

a verry pretty place,and a very public place. that was for Roads and neighbors.and Church.but No School.nearer than Three miles. but that didnt bother me.eny at that time.for l was through with School then eny way.but l had my little Brother and Sister.but they managed to get to School some of the time.it was a wide .

open Country. thickly settled and plenty of. Boys and Girls around. and with the little start in the year of 1899. when I had found me a pretty little Girl friend. it didnt take me long to quit useing Hickory bark for Shoe strings. Tho. it seemed that I couldnt get far away from my little Girl friend. to keep her away from me. not that I wanted too. by eny means. her and her Brother. still had his Horse. and just kept comeing Too see me. and then. of corse they came to stay the Night. and the next day. well my Mother and Father. thought lots of the. Two kids. if that was what they called us. Tho we were Sixteen year Old Kids then. but I got started around over the neighborhood. Two dances. and such things. as my Brother was a good Fidler and played for lots of them. and had a good Horse. and Ruber tire Bugy. and of corse I could play the Fiddle and Guitare Two. I remember that I was at a dance, over acoss the country from across from I lived and I had a Fiddle of my own. that I had traded for some how. and there was a young man over. that I had got acquainted with. and he had a little Ivory Johnson pistol. Pearl Handle. it was a 32. Caliber. just about New. and it was so pretty I. I wanted it. so we got in his Bugy. and drove over to my place. for him to see the. Fiddle. it was a pretty Fiddle but a cheap one. and so. was the gun. but we teaded even with each other. so he taken the Fiddle on back with him. and I didnt go back to the dance with him. so it went on for a few days. and my Brother asked where was my Fiddle. and of corse I told him what I had done with it. for he had one his self. but he was of age. and I wasent. he sed dont let Dad know that you got it. I kept listing for Dad to ask me where my Fiddle was. but he never did. for I kept it put away and hardly ever did have it out. so I had to let him find out the hard way. I had went over across the. country over on the other road. with a neighbor of ours. one Saturday Night. Two a Moon light Picnic. they called it. and me and

this man were standeing leaneing aganst the center Pole.in the danceing ring.and they were danceing all around us.and I had it in my Front pocket.and had my hand hold on it.and finger on the triger.and it was eaiser on triger than I thought for.and shot it off in my pocket.in to the ground.between my feet.if it hadent.set my pocket on fire.and that thing that was standeing there beside me.and kept his big mouth shet.no one would have known who did it. So.the next day.Dad and I were workeing down there in the field.and I saw the old Deval.drive up to the gate.and he called my Dad down there too him.I started to go with Dad .but thought that I would let him go on,but I knew that I would have to go right soon.so I watched them for a couple or Three minuts.and I saw my Dad look my way.so I knew that he was giveing him the lay.down on it.then Dad called me down there.and Dad asked me about it.and I sed that it was an,accident.then the old Devel used it being an accident.wasent eny excuse.it was done and I did it I sed well what are you goeing to do about it.he sed that he would have to go to the Sherrif.about it.then I sed that you will make it a lot worst.and turned and walked off. he stood there and talked to my Dad a few minuts and he spied a little old light Plow.laying there on the ground.and asked my Dad what he would take for it.my Dad sed take it.and keep your.Dam mouth shut.about the gun goeing off then.all right Jim.I will do it.and got out of his old spring wagon.and put it in.and drove off with lt.then Dad wanted to know where I got the gun.and I told him that I traded my Fiddle for it.then he sed to who.I sed I dont know I never saw him before.then he sed where is the gun.I sed I got it here in my pocket.he sed let me see lt.so I pulled it out and let him see it.and he reached out to take it.On you Dont.he sed all right I havent got eny more Plows for sale.Now.and that was the last of that. untill I got a job.and gave him Five Dollars for it I got off lightl thought.that was in 1901.I worked around with a few of the clostes Farmers.

when I wasent kneeded in our crop.my Dad didnt
 hall very much that year.and my Brother was still
 with us .and my little Brother,and my Sister.
 she was quite a kid.Tenn years old.and my half
 Sister.she had been liveing with us every since
 she was Nine years old.but she was always was
 weakly.and never did go to School hardely eny at
 all.so they didnt make her go.the Farmers up in
 around that country.gave me a Dollar a day.
 and my dinner.I could have worked out all the
 time for them.if they hadent kneeded me at home.
 so much of the time.I bought my own cloths
 and of corse helped the Home out a lot.I didnt
 go to Town on more than I had too.
 I didnt care eny thing much about the City.
 in them days.I know that my Brother.and a friend of
 his had a Picnic.there at the Bridg.below our
 House.In July.
 and they had me helpeing them buildeing the stand
 and halling the sawdust.and had to go to Town.
 the day before.to get the Goods,for every thing.
 and help the old Negro.do the Barbecueing.of the
 meat.and when.every thing got under way.
 that Morneing.there was such a crowd.there that.
 they couldnt weight on them.so they put me in
 the stand.to help them out.they seen that they
 were goeing to sell out of every thing
 before they hardely got started.or by One Oclock
 eny way.so they had to get Dad to hitch up his
 team.and make a trip back to Town.
 for another load of goods.for it was goeing on
 untill Twelve Oclock that Night.and did.
 and the croud stuck right on till the last.
 then they sold out every thing that they had.
 I had worked harder than either one of them.
 for about Three days.but I knew what would haponn
 when they started too settle up that Night.
 so I had prepared for that part of it.all that
 Day.it was about Two Oclock in the Morneing.
 when talled every thing up.and I wanted to be
 there when it was done.just to see how much that
 they had made on the thing.

they kept telling me why dont you go to bed.
 we can do the rest of it. we know that you must
 be awfully tired. but I told them I wasn't tired.
 that I just wanted to know what was made on that
 Picnic. so they said O.K. so when the profit was
 figured up. they had cleared .

around Seventy Five Dollars apiece. I didn't say
 any thing. I just wanted to see what they were
 going to give me of any thing.

so they had about Two Dollars and Fifty Cents.
 there in small change. too divide between them.
 and they looked at me and said.

I guess that we can pay you this much for what
 you have done for us. well I wasn't expecting.

that much. but thanks a lot.

you too ought to have one of these things ever
 month. I said well I will go to bed now.

Good Night Cooks. they didn't know that I had.
 Twenty Dollars of that Money in my pocket then.

I never did want to take any thing from any body
 that I was working for. but I knew if I didn't do
 it that way. I wouldn't get any thing at all.

and I had done more work from the start .

than either one of them had done. but then they
 bragged about what they had made on their Picnic.

Well. that was I did very well. I to work around
 over the neighbor hood for Four or Five of the
 Farmers. and managed to get me a few cloths.

and help the family quite a bit.

that Fall after the crop was gathered. my Dad
 started up his hilling again. my Brother. and me
 would cut the wood for him. the Widow lady. that
 owned the place. had a piece of land over.

just off the road. that she wanted us to clear.
 up for her. for the wood that was on it.

and that gave us a Winter job. and my Dad decided
 too. stay there another year.

so that would be 1902.

we went on through the Fall and Winter. of 1901.
 and made it good. I remember while we were .

clearing that piece of land. my Brother and me.
 cut down an old black oak Tree one day. and it

had some young Squirrels in it, and we caught Two of them, and I taken them to the House, and put them in a Cage, and went to feeding them sweet milk, and they were pets just in no time and just grew off fast, and climed around all over me and the House Too, but that Sister of mine, didnt like them, so one day she let them out in the yard, and they taken off for the Woods down below the House on the creek and they never did come back to the House, and I never could find them, but I sure did look there was a big old Oak Tree standeing standeing over there across the Creek that had a big hold in it up about Twenty Feet, and I crawled up there to see if they went in too it to live, it was a great big Whole, and was a limb just above it, and I put my fingers in it to pull my self up to get on the limb, and when I got on it, I bent over to look in to see if they were in there, but they wasent in there, but there was something else in there, it was a Chicken Snake, as big, as my arm, and had the whole plumb full of Snake, and me up above it, and haveing to go down by it, so I thought that I would cut me off a limb, and gouge the thing out of there, which I did, but the Dam, snake came the rong way it came up, and I didnt have eny more limbs to get hold of, so me and that snake was haveing a battle up there in that old Oak Tree, to see which one was goeing down first, it was wound around my leg, and around the limb that I was sitting on, but it never did try to bite me, and if it had it wouldent have hurt me, for they arent poisen, but it looked so ugly up there on that little limb with me, I finly hit it on the head, with my little stick, enough to kindly stun it, and kicked it loose from my leg and it fell to the ground, then I had to slide down to the ground, to kill the Dam thing, and believe me, that is just what I Did, for I was realy mad at that snake.

for what it had done to me. if that had been my.
Dad. he would have fell out of that Tree.
as scard of a snake as he was. well I made it very
well on through the rest of the Summer and Fall.
we kept on keeping wood cut for our dad.
too haul to Town. about Three days a week. my Brother
was goeing to get Married. just after the First
of the year. and he wouldnt be with me eny.
more after that year. he had traded for a big old
Gray Mair. he still held on too his Horse and.
Buggy. but he had just. traded for her just a little
while before. she was a verry good Mair.
but she was wild as the Deval. he turned her out
in the paster. over across the creek from the.
House. and some time a year or so before.
they had cut a ditch down beside the fence. on our
slde. to dreen the watter off of a piece of land
into the creek below. and the next day.
he wanted her to hitch up to his Buggy. to go to.
see his Girl friend that evening. and he went.
over to the pasture. after her.
and looked all over for her .so he started
around around the fence to find where she dad.
got out. at. but she hadent got out. he found her.
laying in that ditch.
with all Four feet sticking strieght up in the
air. there was some other stock over in the other
Field. joineing ours. and she took out across there
when she seen them. and the ditch was so clost to
the fence. she ran right in to it.
well we got her out with out being hurt eny.
well my Brother. left just after the First of the
year. and went to Town. that was 1902.
then that left me there with just my little Brother
Lonnie. he was Forteen. years old that July.
the Eleventh. he wasent big enough. and he never.
had been verry stout. but he went on just the same.
and done the best that I could on.
through the Winter. but he helped me cut some wood
for Dad to haul to Town. through the Winter days.

untill Spring began to come around.and time to.
 start to fixing our land to get out our crop/
 and my Dad got home from Town one evening.
 and put his team up and fed them.and the next.
 Morneing he went down to feed them.and one of
 the Horses was sick.our best one.the one that I
 was rideing.the Night that the Black Panther.
 got after me.when we lived on Grandmaws place.
 Three years before.and he died that day.
 with blind Stagers.well we had to get another one.
 for we had to make a crop .so he found a very good
 Mule,that he got very cheap.
 and we got out a very good crop.but I couldnt
 get eny work around the neighbor hood that year.
 for I had to stay at home all the year in the
 crop.and of corse my little Brother.wasnt much
 help to me.for he was aleing all the spring.
 and summer.and finely.in the early Fall.
 he taken down with the.Typhoid Fever and died.
 in Two weeks after he taken down with it.
 So bad luck over taken us that year.I just didnt
 know what to do or eny thing.but I went on just
 the same.and got the crop all in .and the Tobacco
 cured up.and the corn cut.but did I miss my Two.
 Brothers,we all did. my Dad,
 sed that we wouldnt Farm.eny more for a while.
 eny way.so he went to Town.to look around for
 a job .and a place to live in.
 and as soon as we could get our crop halled to
 Town.he had his team and wagon.and we had our
 Cow.and we moved to Town and taken his team and
 Cow.with him.he had feed to feed them on.
 and we both got jobs.and went to work.at cheap
 wages of corse.as every thing else was at that.
 time,My.Dad got a job with the Forbes M.F.G.Co.
 on a job.in One block of where we was liveing.
 and the next day.I went with him.and the boss.
 Man.put me to work and I worked on up till the
 week before Christmus,
 I had agreed to work on the Farm with my Brother.
 from the first of the year.of 1903.

for he Married a Girl that lived on a Farm for her Father owned it. and her Father owned a Saloon in Town. and his wife. and other Three Girls. wanted. to move back on the Farm. with my Brother. and his wife. he married the oldest one of the Girls. but I worked on around there on Two or Three jobs . and bought me some New cloths. and helped my Mother. and Dad out on the Rent. and Groceries, and joined the National. Gards. Co. D. Third Kentucky. I. N. F. I got acuanted with lots of the Boys. and Girls around Town. of corse. they called me the Country Kid. and raged me quite a bit. but I didnt care I knew that they were my friends. or that they wouldnt hang around me like they did. I didnt go in the Saloons. with eny of them. tho I could have if I had wanted too. I guess that I was in every other place with them that I had no buisnes in with them. I got in with some of the Livery Stable oners. and they had a number of Boys workeing for them. and we got to be friends right off the real. they would take me out with them to partes way out in the country. and in Town too. one man there would send his Stable Man after me lots of times. to go too a Privet Home some where around Town where he didnt call it a party. he called it a social. he had a little Girl. that lived just across. the street from his Livery Stable. and he just wanted to get her in his arms on the floor. he didnt care wheather eny body. else were on the floor but them or not. I could play the Fiddle. or the Guitare either one . he has he has let me have a horse and. Bugy lots of times Free. I remember that one Night. his Stable Man another Boy friend of. his came after me to go way down East of Town to some Girls Home. and it was as cold as the Deval. that night. and on our way back to Town we were driving a Mair. that was wild as a. Jack Rabbit.

you could hear them Feet hitting the road for a mile. and when we got on up the road from where we had left from. there was a big old Dog came tairing out in the road. and would have jumped in the Bugy. if I hadent shot and killed it. when I first moved to Town. I joined up with the National Guards, Drill nights was on Tuesday. Nights. they put me with Two other new Recruits. with a Corpol for traneing that night. but the next Drill night. they put me right in with the Company. in the regular Drill. and in Two Months I was in the Drill for the Medle. and wone it. over all of the rest of the Company. D. out fit. so on one night after Drill. me to start One way around the Room. and help put out the. Lights. they were Gas lights. for they didnt have Electricety there then. No pour Plant there then well the lights brackets around the Drill Hall. was sposed to be turned Off. but I was bloweing them out. but it sure did take some breath to blow them out. but the First Sargent. saw me and came over to me and sed you Dam Country you. turn that switch. there. that is what it was put there for. to turn them out. but I had alredy blew out Three of them. but then I had to go back and turn the. switch off. to keep the Gas from comeing through. then. the next thing they got me to put on the. Boxing Gloves. one night up, there. just to see how they would fit me. I hadent noticed eny one else haveing eny on. but I soon found out why they were so anxious for me to see how they fit me. he was just about my size. but he was a trained Boxer. so he came up to me and sed. now you got the Gloves on. I want to see how you can use them. so he made a pass at my chin with his left. and I partely checked it. with my left. and in a split seccond I pasted him with a right upper cut to the jaw. and when he got up he got up on the side walk. Fifteen steps down the stair way. I sed they put

the Gloves on us too closte to the Door.when.
 they came up off the Street.Two of them went
 down to see if he was hurt.but he wasent hurt much
 but they had the gloves off his hands when he
 cane to the top of the stairs.he looked at sed.
 Bill.that was plenty fast for me.
 well.that was near about time for me to leave.
 Town.Tho.l hated to leave there if l had made a
 trade with my Brother.to come to him Christmus.
 to work for him for the first Nine Months of the
 year.on the farm.and my old Buddies hated for
 me to leave them Too.
 but l wasent worried about haveing lots of fun
 l was getting right in a Home , with Three,
 pretty Girls.and their Mother.and my Brother.
 and his wife .their oldest Sister.
 So.Christmus Eve day.my Brother and his wife.
 came in Town.after me,they had to come after me
 in the wagon her Sister Sue.came in with them.
 they had to come in the wagon.for they had to
 get Suplyes.Groceries.and such like.
 and l had bought me a New Trunk.and we got a late
 start back home that evening.and it was Eighteen
 miles away back in the hills.l was headeing.
 back to the hills and back woods again.
 but l didnt care ,it was way after dark when.
 we got home of corse.but the Mother of the Girls.
 and the Two of them that stade at home that day
 had supper all redy when we got back.
 and they was glad to have-me there with them.
 we had supper.then the next thing.was get my.
 Room redy for me and my things,but goeing on home
 Sue and me sit back in the wagon on some soft.
 goods we had a good seat.and my Brother,and his
 wife sit on the Spring seat.and he drove the team.
 so she had alredy told me about my room that they
 had fixed for me,it was just out side from the
 kitchen.a new room that they had built the year
 brfore.so being so meny Girls and their Mother,
 and them Girls haveing so meny cloths.of all kinds

closet room was scarce. so when we got settled. after supper. Sue and me began to get my things. un packed .and get my New Trunk out in my Room. she began to take some of her things out there. in my Room. she sed for me to let her put some. of her things in my Trunk .and that she was goeing to hang some of her best Dresses in my cloths. closet with mine. that she did her own Laundry. and was goeing to do mine too. and that she was goeing to keep her cloths and mine all together. and in our Room. that them Sisters of hers just kept her things throne on the Floor all the time, so l hadent been . there very long untill l found that out. l had a good big Trunk. and she just put her best things in it. for it wouldent hold all of our things. when she began to pick up her things. off the. closet floor. that night when she was getting my things in my room. and takeing hers in there. Two, one of her Sisters. asked her if she was goeing too move in there with me, she sed. that she as soon too as not. she sed that she. was goeing to put her cloths where she wouldent have to pick them up off the floor all the time but they were all so good to me. they treated me better than if l had been their Brother. we sure did have fun that first week that l was there. it being a week before the first of January before l had to go to work. we had plenty of. company. from Town and every where else looked like. News years Day. l got started to work. l think that the first thing was get up some fire wood. which was something that we had plenty of. and the Weather was bad on through January. cold and snow. on the ground all the time. feed the stock and get fire wood. was just about all that l could . through that Month, and believe me my Brother. let me do it all. for he had just got married the year before , and the Honey Moon hadent wore off yet. but l dident mind the bad weather. for that.

for that, kept me around the House more of the time. and around the house was where I was. haveing the most fun. for when I was in the House I didnt lack for attention. with Three grown up Girls in there. and one of them that I had fell. in love with head over heels. with. and her with me. long them days. my hair when I. let it get quite long. it would curl so easy and good. and when I would come in the House, some times all Three of them would stand up. around me and make curls. with their fingers. with my hair. and you know. that would take a lot of that to hurt me.

When I came in from work every day. I didnt sit around. with my old work cloths on. my Girl had my cloths laid out for me to put on and if I didnt put them on. she would put them on me. some times she would tell her Two Sisters to go way and leave me alone. well. it was just one big happy family. I have ofton thought why couldnt it have ended up that way. but it didnt. it started in like a Lamb. and ended up like a. Lyon. but not on my part of it. or hers either. for we kept right on as we started in.

we would go places at Night. when we could get a Horse and Buggy. my Brother. had a good Horse. and a good Rubber tire Buggy. that little wife of his sed so. but she was a Firie Dame if there. ever was one. she had him wraped. around her little finger. but when. we wanted to go bad enough.

the old family Horse and Buggy was there. that didnt look too bad. it wasent a Ruber tire but a good Buggy. and a good Horse. So her Mother. would tell us to take her Horse and Buggy. and go when we goy good and redy. and that is what we did. I remember one Saturday when I came in from work. at noon. for Dinner, to ask my Brother. if we could have his Horse and Buggy that Night. to go over to her Aunts that NIGHT. and go to Church the next day. Sunday. the Church was there clost to her Aunts Store. her Aunt was my Aunt Too. by Marriage. her Aunt was her Fathers Sister. Married my Mothers Brother. so I asked him

if he would let us have it. and he sed that we, could have it. that they wasent goeing eny place so we got redy just after noon. so we could get over there early. and when I got to the Stable. to get the Horse and Bugy. he and her. were standeing in the lot by the corn crib. and she was talking to him and her face was red as fire.

and then I knew that she didnt want us to have the Horse and Bugy. and he sed to me that she. didnt want us to have it. and oh was I mad.

I went back to the House and told Sue. that her Sister didnt want us to have the Horse and Bugy but her Mother. sed for us to take her Horse. and Bugy and go on. but I was so mad at her I could have killed her. and of corse I started.

on back to get the Family Horse and Bugy. I was so mad at her. I was walking a little fast.

when I went through the lot gate. and they were still standeing there by the corn crib where I had left them. and when I came through the gate I thought. that I would give her a little scair and I pulled my gun out of my pocket.

and she seen it. and they jumped behind the corn crib. but I pulled the triger once eny way.

I didnt have the least notion of trying to hit either one of them. but I hit the corner of the corn crib. and they saw a sliver fly off of it and she was scard with an inch of her life.

I had started to the Stables. to get the Family Horse and Bugy. but my Brother. stuck his head. out from behind the corn crib. and called to me and sed for me to go on and take his.

take their Horse and Bugy if I wanted it. I knew that it would scare her out of some of that.

temper. but I went on and got the Family Horse.

and Bugy eny way. but I was tickled about her

giveing in so quick. when she herd that shot.

and saw that bark fly off that log. we hitched up the old family Horse and Bugy. and took off on our trip as nothing had happoned.

and sed nothing about it to eny one

we spent the Night with our Uncle and Aunt.
and went to Church the next day.and got back home
some time Sunday night.and all was well Sunday
Morning.and I guess that it give her a little
scare in a way.for the next time that we wanted
my Brothers Horse and Bugy.she sed nothing .
aganste it.I talked to my Brother about it Monday
Morneing.he sed that I did it just to scare her
and that he was glad that I did.

that something had to break her from it .
she went along very well for some time,but she
couldnt hold out too long.well my Dad got .
tiried workeing in Town for the wages that he
was getting.so he moved out on a Farm that he
and my Mother lived on the first year of their
Marrige.where my Brother was born.
and with the Man.that got the Farm that he should
have had.my Sister was still with them .

she was Twelve years old then.so that gave me .
some place to go.when I could get away for a .
little while.it was about Four Miles from where
I was liveing.I could get my Brothers little.
Mair.to ride then most any time that I wanted it

for the old Girl had just about taken off Too.
her Room and to her self the most of the time.
but that was better for all of us.except my.
Brother.and she made him stay in the room with
her all the time.when she could.

as I have sed before.we had lots of company.all
along through the year.the Girls.had social .
inter tainments.they called them.no dances .
and my Brother.and a neighboe Man.that worked
at the big Saw Mill there on the place.
sure could make the Music for them.my Brother.
with his Violien.and the other one with his.
Guitar.I didnt care so much being in the croud
that would be there.so I would stay in my room
for it was on the out side of the other part of
the House.but my Girl friend there wouldnt let
me stay out of there.she would come in my room
and make me dress up in my best.and lead me.
right on in there where they all were.

I Remember one time when they had one. she came in my room and taken me in the room and there wasent eny seat for me to sit in. and her Sister was sitting by her Boy friend. and she called me over where she was sitting, and pulled me down in her lap. and that old Boy got so mad. he sit there for a few minuts. and got up and left the room. and just such things happoned very ofton there, like that. I wasent so bashful with the Home folks , but when they brought me in the room with a lot of strangers. I was a little Embarest. especialy when they pulled me down in their laps or sit down in mine. but I soon got out of that way. but I made some jelos Boy fraends. and I know that. that was, what they wanted to do. they didnt care eny thing about them old Countrys, but we had lots of fun long in the Spring. there was a bunch of them. around the neighborhood. that wanted my Brother. too put our Two big Mules. to the Wagon. and put a lot of hay. on the frame .and take them up to the what called the Pilot Rock. it was just. across the Christen County line over in Todd. County. about Twelve miles from our place. a great load of them includeing the Misses. my Brother wanted me to go along and drive the team. but I told him that I didnt want to go no way at all. I knew that his wife wanted to go and. if he didnt go that she wouldent either. and be mad for the next Month. then he sed that he would go and look out for every thing. he knew that it wasent safe for all of us or he or I too leave the lpace at fhe same time. for we had a bunch of half breeds liveing . joining Farms to us. that was just looking for something like that to happon all the time. and I will tell a little more about that a little lator on. well when they were redy to start from our place they had to stop on up the road at. Diffrient Houses. to pick up the rest of their. gang.

The youngest Daughter decided that she wouldnt go with them.sed that she had rather stay there with me.of corse they didnt care if she went or not.so she and I staid Home.
and cleaned up the dishes.and the House.and I made the rounds about the place.and got back to the House.and she was fixing something for our Dinner,and we got our dinner over with,
and washed our dishes,we taken a walk around the place and back to the House,and was tired.
and lay down across the bed.and went to sleep.
and we had been sleeping over Two hours or more when I herd some one clear up his throat.
and I jooked up.standeing in the Door we left the Doors all open.and there stood a Man that had a Brother liveing there on the place,then.
and he had lived on it for sevsral years.his self.but had bought him a little Farm across the country aways.he came to his Brothers house and he wasent at Home.and he wanted to know .
where every body were.
and I told him that they all took off with a load to the Pilot Rock that Morneing.but we couldnt all leave the place at one time.he knew the reason why.he didnt know that I was liveing there he sed.
well they all came in about dark.tiried out as I expected.well as the weeks went by,it was .
about the same old thing.every body seemed to be happy.for some time to come.some time along in July.we had some Early Harvest Apples that had got ripe.out there in Front of the House.
in the Orched.and I had rodé over too my Dads.
that night a while.and while I was gawn.
they herd somebody shaking a apple Tree.and my Brother,gets the lantern and lights it and takes off out there.to see about it.
and did.he got a harde clot of dirte up over his eye.the Dam stupid idiot.goeing out with a lanternhe might have known he would get knock down

I didnt know eny thing about it till the next
 Morneing when I came back from feeding the
 Stock and come to the Breakfast table.
 and seen the not above his eye. I sed how come
 that there. and the misses told me. how he went
 Two the orched with the lantern to run the.
 Rouges out Steeling Apples;
 I sed what a brite Brothre I have. but I will
 make up for it before the year is out.
 and I did. but it was just a little bit lator on
 in the Winter. I prould around the place a lot
 of Nights to catch some of them Vermonsts.
 they kindly dreeded me in a way. more so than they
 did my Brother, X
 they would steel eny thing out of the field.
 at Night. and there was about Six of them Men.
 and about Three Women. and generaly Two of them
 togather. when they came. we had some hogs that
 we let run up there in the woods that joined
 their place. and they had a big old Dog. that they
 would put after our hogs and I guess that they
 caught one of them and eat it.
 for there was one that never did come home. and I
 came around through the woods one Sunday evening
 just about sundown , had been over to my Dads.
 that Sunday for a while. and was goeing back home
 when I came around a curve in the road.
 in our woods , I was rideing my Brothers little
 Mair. and she could scip along like a cat . in
 the soft dirt I came up on Two of them with my
 Brother. backed up against a Oak Tree.
 he had herd them up there with their Dog after
 our hogs. and went up there. and he ran right in to
 them. and had him standeing there by the Tree.
 but I guess that it was good that I happoned
 along in the next minut or so. I dont know what
 would have happoned to him if I hadent if I
 hadent came along when I did. but as I saw who it
 was I hsd my gun in my hand. and wanted to know
 what was goeing on there. I asked my Brother. what
 happoned. and he told me that he herd their dog
 after our hogs. and he sed cant you hear them.

I went on very well the rest of the summer. Working every day and going some place very near every night. Fall was getting nearer all the time and my time being nearly up, and I was really looking forward to it, for things had changed quite a bit from the beginning, with some of the family but not with my part of it. A unhappy woman can make every body unhappy, when they try. We got our Tobacco in the barn, and got it cured up and that was just about the end for me, though the way things turned out, I had to stay on a while longer, another Month longer, of course I knew what was going to happen when he got every thing like he wanted it, that was the reason that I was asked to stay on a while longer.

It staid so dry after we got the Tobacco cured that it couldnt come in orser, so we could get it down out of the Barn and get it to Town and have it striped out, and on the market, but it began to cloud up one evening, and began to sprinkle rain a little, and had got quite cool late in the after noon, and the women folks wanted me to build up a fire in the old fire place for them so I went too the wood pile and got some wood and built themm a fire, and of course it felt good to all of us, and after supper, we all went in and sit around it, and it had began to sprinkle/ rain a little harder, and we were all sitting around in a circle. My Brother in the Left hand side and his wife next to him and on the other side, the misses was sitting over in the right hand corner and next to her her youngest Daughter, was sitting beside her, and I was sitting beside of her, and my Girl friend, Sue, next to me.

Now, and I could hear them, they sed that they didnt put them after them. but I sed that they could go oved there and get him off them, and that was just what they had better do, and that fast, and that I had better not have another one come up missing. I went on and worked in the crop, on up in some time in May, I think it was, and taken down with the Measels, and then I had Two lay up for a few days, they didnt hurt me much, but I had a good case of them, but I had plenty of Nurces too look after me, I Rember just after I got up with the Measels, there were goeing to be a party/ way, across the hills about Four Miles from where we lived and my Girl wanted to go, over there too it, but it looked like rain and I told her that it was goeing to rain, but she wanted to go eny way, so I hitched, a big Mule that we had there, to the bugy and we got started, and it was dark as a bunch, of Black Cats, but we got down in that old deep hollow, and in the woods, and couldnt see the road if there ever was one there to start, with, and the Mule got us hung up on a Tree, and it began to rain just poreing down, and I was out trying to get the Bugy off, the Tree, and get back in the Bugy and dont get get your self wet, and your cloths all, muddy, so I got back in the Bugy, we had the side curtains up and a big heavy spread, and there wasent eny thing that we could do about it then, untill we could find the road if there was one, or weight till day, so that was just what we had to do, weight for day break to come, but it hadent qyt raning then, but I maniged to get out when it got it got light enough so I could find the Road, then I didnt have to get out in the Mud, so we got home for Breakfast, I would get into the dardest messes with, them Girls some times.

and her other Sister sitting next to her.
 I. was cleaneing against my girl Sue.when.

I just happoned to be looking over in the corner where the Misses was siting. when she jumped back and screamed.and I seen a Negros,finger come out of the hold that the piece of Pointeing fell out of. and I jumped up and grabed my gun off the mantle,and hit for the big old open porch on the Front.and when I hit the yeard,I seen him goeing through the yard gate. at the Front it was so dark and raining a little.I just got the bulk of him as he got through the gate.I pulled the triger. once and then the seconed time.and we herd him hollow,but he kept on goeing. and by that time the family was all on the porch and I started out the gate after him. but my Brother, told me not to go after him.that there probely was more of them out there.and I told him that I had Three, more. loades in my gun.and Sue,came up. and sed if I was goeing.that she was. goeing with me, we walked along slow,and easy in that soft moist dirt.kept on out by the stock Barn. and clear on out to the Tobacco Barn.there we seen where there had been a Bugy turned around.just minuts. before.and a lot of blood we could see where the dust had been stired up from under the wet dirt.we had to Hurrah.to get to. the House.for the rain was comeing down then very hard. of corse we dident know who the victom was,but we had a very good idea. who he was,but we couldent do eny thing that night, for it was raining hard then. and rained that way very near that way very near all night,that was on FRiday night. my room was on the out side of the other. part of the House.and if it was one of the bunch that we thought it was,they were a mean bunch I wasent scard of eny of them.

by any means. but what they could to me in the dark and for the blood that we seen there in the road it loked bad, Sue and I got back to the house and my Brother told me to keep my door locked. that night, and keep my gun where I could get it quick. if I should kneed it.

and to blind my windows, and he and his wife went to their room. but me and Sue and her Mother, sit up untill after One. Oclock, I wasent a bit nervous, but Sue was so nervos she couldent hardely talk. it just kept poreing down rain the night. Through. plumb on till after day light. I desided that I would go to bed about One Thrity. and Sue got her rain coat, out of the closet, so I wouldent get wet goeing from the Kitchen Door to my Room. and she was under it with me when we got in there. she sed that she wouldent sleep Eny. that Night no way, and that she wasent goeing to let me stay out there. away from every body till day light, and she dident. we sit there on the side of my bed. till day began to berak. and then. went into the Kitchen. and began to get. Breakfast. but nothing bothered that Night. as to that. around Tenn Oclock the next, Morneing. which was Saturday. I told my. Brother, that I was goeing to get on his Mair and ride over too my Dads for a little while. and that I would have to ride, nearly through those Negroes yard. goeing by there. and I left about Tenn Oclock, and. when I got along even with their House. I seen Four or Five Negres, standeing around the Front Door. talking, but I just kept on goeing as if I hadent seen them, but I had to go right by Dr, Wrights. place. he was a Country. Doctor. and he seen me comeing around his little Peach Orched. and he came out to the yard gate. and motioned me up. to the gate. and I did, and the first .

thing. sed to me was. what did you shoot
 that Negro for last Night for. I sed that
 he didnt have have eny buisnes pushing.
 Pointing out of the Chimney corner.
 on the floor. then he sed, than you are the
 One that did it then, it could be for I
 hit some body. runeing out of the yard.
 just before it began to rain, last night.
 so I didnt go on over too my Dads.
 I went right back by there, and went and
 told them at the House what Dr, Wright
 had told me, he sed that he was hit very
 bad. but he thought that he could pull.
 him through all right. so that was the last
 of it. with that bunch of Negroes, but I
 had some teouble .with onē of the same.
 bunch, or was in the family rather, it was
 at a Road grader camp the year before that
 we haponed to meet there but neither one
 of us worked there, he was a little older.
 than I was. and some bigger than me, but I
 mashed his old nose for him, but didnt.
 knock him down, I knew that there wasent
 eny use to hit a Negro. on the head with.
 your fist. so I picked up a chair, and brought
 him down with it. and would have finished
 him up with what was left of it. If hadent
 been for the Grader Foreman. he then made
 the Negro leave the camp grounds, after he got
 him up and on his feet. and when he got home
 and told his Dad, how come him all skind.
 up. his Dad come over too our house the.
 next day to, see me about it. I told him.
 how it Happed. and the Grader Forman. told
 him the same thing. and he sed that we would
 go to Cort about it. I told him that I would kill
 everyr Dam Negro on that hill. if they.
 didnt leave me alone. so I never did hear
 eny thing, more about it. So I guess that is why
 I. do not like a Negro So well,

Well. that Friday night that the rain came was in my favor quite a bit. for it staid cloudy on in too the folling Week, and brought our Tobacco in order. so that we could take it down out of the Barn. and get it loaded on the wagon. and get it to Town. Too the Ware House. and have it Striped out, that week, the ware House Man. gets a bunch of Negros and had it striped out in Two days.

and put on the floor trucks. and redy for the Market, that same week. so my Brother. went back to Town the first of the next week, and sold it. and came back home and gave me Forty. Dplars. of the money. but I hadent even got but Tenn Dollars, the hold time htat I had been there. as that left him owning Fifty more Dollars. but he had alredy told me what he had to do. and that he would see that I would get the rest of my money. but it looked like I just had to get the rest of my money the best way that I could the way things were turning out. he had a Cow there. that was Dry. and wasent fit for eny thing but Beef. and he had told me to sell her if I could, and get some of my money. out of her. so I sold her to a man there on the place. for Twenty. Dollars, when he went back to sell the Tobacco no one knew what was goeing to happon, except him and I. he had drew what money he had paid me and just a little more. on the Tobacco after he got it in the ware House. so he could pay it to me. so he solde the Tobacco, and didnt keep eny more of the money for his self. but gave the sales receipt. Two. the land owner. which was his Father Enlaw. to do what he wanted to do with it. for the most of it was goeing to himeny way.

I knew that he had solde his Hair and Bugy.

but the Man that he sold it too.let him,keep it till he got his Buisnes like he wanted it. so he could get away from Hopkinsville when he left there that Morning to go to Town.I knew that would be the last time that I would see him for some time to come. but no one of the rest of the ones down there. on the farm. knew about.so that day in . Town. my old Bud.met him as had been , arranged, before hand.and he told him to go down there on the farm.the next day and get me away from down there.so the next Morneing my old pal came over on the farm, where I was, and of corse I knew what he. had come for. tho I should have been gawn from there far Tenn days, so I told them that I was goeing back to my Dads, with my old Bud. for he lived there joineing farms to my Dad. but my Brother. had bought a set of Harness, on earlier in the year.and I knew that he was getting Married the next year.and I sold him the Harnes for Fifteen Dollars. and we taken them away with us that day. we put them in his Suggy and got my Trunk.and my cloths and told them all good By.I hated to leave my old Girl Friend. but things like that.has to hapon some times.I knew that they were goeing too. move back to Town the next week eny way

back there Two their home on Elm Street so that, wound up the longest year of my Life, I am most sure.

I had been a very good Boy,I guess in a untill that year of 1903.

I got back with my Mother.and Father,and my. Sister, she was Twelve years old then and my half Sister was still with them. but she .was in very Poor health but I still had Three more Months.of 1903.

I had around One Hundried. Dollars.on me

Then, but of corse that didnt last me very long when I got back with my Dad. and him knowing that I had it,there happoned to be a Saw Mill just about a mile from where I lived,and I went to see the Man that' owned it and he gave me a job at it. at a Dollar and a Half a Day, well I would walk just across the field. from where I lived, every day and back six. Days a week,with Nine Dollars in my pocket for my weeks work. well of corse my old long life Friend Bud, lived just a mile. from me then,and he was still goeing . with the same Girl,that he had been going with for Three years,and she was liveing just joining Farms. Two the one that I was liveing on, and of corse he would come by my place,too get me,and his Girl happoned to be my old time Girl friend,but. had got away from each other, for a year or Two. Tho. on the first.Saturday Night he came by my place.walking.to get me to go over there with him. but that was where. my first little Girl friend lived when we were School kids,in 1899,but we had fell for each other Head over heels ,but I had moved off quite aways but it didnt stop her. and her Brother from coming to see me on week ends,they would get on his Horse and come and stay all night with us, and did that for the next Two years,about once every Month. then I got out of her reach , for a while,just see each other once and a while,then,too I had just came out of another affair.or something like that,and didnt care to get in another one so soon.Tho,I had bought me some New cloths,and things that I hadent ever had eny thing like before. So I put on my best,and went along with him. it was a little after dark.when we got to, their house and when he knocked on the Door his Girl friend came too let him in.but she, couldnt see who I was there,in the hall.

with him till I stepped in to the light. then, she brought out a little scream. that brought out her other too Sisters. and her Brother, and of course, my little Girl friend was in the bunch. and then in my arms. it had been about Two years since we had seen each other, but nothing had changed in her in that length of time, for she was in my arms right there and then, they were all so glad to see me. as it had been the Frodical Son returned Home, we didnt know how to get started in again. for we hadent seen each other in so long. we didnt get to be together very much of the time that night, for the rest of them all wanted to see and talk to me too. we just sit around with the rest of them all. till time for me and my budy to leave for we was walking. over there eny way, Tho of course we told them that we would be back the next evening. and of course my budy came by the next evening, about One Oclock, in his Bugy and picked me up. we got over there about Two Oclock. but my Girl. didnt say eny thing about haveing a date, with eny one the night before, I knew that my budies Girl never did have a date with eny one but him. so after we had, been there about an hour, up drove a nice looking young man in a brand new Bugy, and me and my Girl hadent got out of my budies Bugy, and he was a boy that I knew. and had all of my life. that lived way back up the country. aways. so the Three of us sit there. just as we were when he had pulled up. and he was asking me where I had been gawn Too so long. and she never did ask him to get out. but he finly sed that he wanted a drink of water. and got out of his Bugy. and expected her I guess, to get and go on in with him to get the water. but she didnt get out of our Bugy. to go in with him, so when he got around to the back porch where the watter was. she sed to me. lets take a ride. my budy never did hitch. his Horse. when he got out.

for I had told him that I wanted the,
 Horse and Bugy. a hour or so. coming on over
 there, he knew that we were going to drive
 around a while before we came in the House.
 so while her date was getting his water.
 we pulled off and left him there with.
 the others, and when we came back, in about
 Three hours her date was gawn, so that wound
 up his little bawl of yarn there,
 we just had to get to our selves to talk to
 each other, for we both knew that we had a
 lot to talk to each other, if we intending
 to go on and live for each other.
 as her Sister and my Budy was doing, they
 were getting Married just in a short while,
 we hadent talked about that part of it
 Just yet, but that was what we had in mind
 in the near Future, we knew that the Two
 years that we were apart, that we would
 some time get back together, Expectations.
 when we did get back together that night
 and the next day, well her Sister and my
 all time Budy. got Married in 1904.
 and went to House keeping, and I staid on
 there where I was, till on up in 1905.
 and she staid on home there Brother and,
 Two. older Sisters, but we seen each other
 Three or Four times a Week,
 for we were liveing joineing Farms to each
 other, for nearly Two years. I finly had to
 drift off, for a while at the time, but not
 so far away that I couldent get to see,
 her as much as once a week eny way,
 my Dad moved away from the place that he
 lived on there next to where where she lived
 and I got a job for a while over in the
 hollow. with an old Man and his wife,
 that Winter. Feeding their stock for them,

that was the the last Month,December,of.
 the year of 1904.the small pocks. was.
 rageing through that Tountry then something
 aupal.the old Pest House over there on
 the Hill by the Poor House Farm.was full
 of Men and Women Too,them old people down
 there where l was staing was afraid for me
 to get eny father from the house than the
 Stock Barns,afrade that l would get the,
 small pocks and bring it there to them, so,
 l sliped off one Friday Night,and went way
 down the creek.to a dance for a while,
 and then went down the hill about a mile
 Two a Still House,where they were makeing
 Whiskey,a Goverment.Still.the last Night,
 making for the year,l staid around there,
 till the next Morneing.that was on Saturday
 Morning.and when l got back to the House,
 that Morning.there was some people there.
 from Town.a Grand Son,and some others,and
 they got after me for being out,and maybe
 bring the Small Pox,to them,so l told them
 that the ones comeing from Town.was more/
 liable to bring it to them than l was,
 me being where they hadent even herd of
 the small Pox,so ltold them to keep their.
 Grand Son there with them,and l took off.
 back to my Dads up the hollow,
 and to my Girls House.for l hadent seen
 her for over a week,then ,well in a day or
 Two.it was,Christmas,so l hung around there
 till the day before New years day,
 and me and another Boy took off down to the
 Coal Mines,down near Nortensville,K.Y,
 and got in there the day the First of January
 that was 1905.then,we staid there with a
 Man and his wife,that Night,they lived there.
 in a Cole Mineing.House.and l could tell
 that they were in verry bad Circumstances,
 so ldident intend to stay there on them,
 eny longer.they were relation to the Boy that
 was with me,l didnt care what he did, but
 l had started out to find a job some where,
 so he left there with me the next Morneing,

out in the Town, of Nortonsville, K.Y. the Junction, and I asked a Rail Road, Man if there was a chance for a job there, and he sed that he didnt think so, but he told us that he thoughe that the I.C. Rail Road, wanted a Man or Two, just up the Mollow, about Five, Miles, from there, so we started on up the, track on the I.C. Tracks, towards Daniel, Boon, K, Y, and we got up there about Tenn Thirty that Morning, and went to the Cook shack, where the Cook was getting Diner for the Road Crue, and he sed that he thought that we could get on, and he sed if we would, sit up to the table, that he would fix us, something to eat, and of corse that just suited us fine, and while we were sitting there eating, he kept looking at me, and finely sed to me I have seen you some place before and I sed that I was thinking the same, thing about him Too, and then I sed that I knew where it was that I had seen him, and then I told him who he was, and then he told he who I was, it just came to both of us at the same time, where we had met each other it was at a big Saw Mill, on the Farm that I was workeing on in 1903, he was the Cook there at the Saw Mill, well the Boss came at noon, with his Four Man crue, and we were siting there with the Cook, and he told the Forman, what we were looking for, and he looked us over for a minut or so, and told us to sit up to the table, and eat our dinner, and then we, would get back to work, so we went out with them that evening, and long about quitting time it began to snow a little, but the next Morneing it had snowed quite a bit, that night but had stoped then, but we went to work eny and just after we got to work, my budy went to the, Boss, to let him off that Morning, for he felt sick, so the Boss to go on to the sleeping, cars and lay down till noon, and he taken off to the Cook shack, I told the Boss, that we wasent likely to ess him him again ,