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No. 345.

Deacon Jones' Wife's Ghost.

(*FARCE.*)

WITH CAST OF CHARACTERS, ENTRANCES AND EXITS,
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DESCRIPTION OF COSTUMES AND THE WHOLE OF THE
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Deacon Jones' Wife's Ghost.

A FARCE

IN ONE ACT.

—BY—

Bert Rawley.

—X—

—TO WHICH IS ADDED—

A DESCRIPTION OF THE COSTUMES—CAST OF THE CHARACTERS
—ENTRANCES AND EXITS—RELATIVE POSITIONS OF
THE PERFORMERS ON THE STAGE, AND THE
WHOLE OF THE STAGE BUSINESS.

—X—

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—X—

—CLYDE, OHIO:—

AMES' PUBLISHING CO.

1894

57413-21

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

DEACON SILAS JONES,	-	-	-	-	W. J. Hutchinson.
DICK DAVIS,	-	-	-	-	W. P. Woods.
TOM JUDKINS,	-	-	-	-	F. Livermore.
JUBA,	-	-	-	-	Bert Rawley.

—X—

PS 2676
R4 14

TIME OF PLAYING—20 minutes.

—X—

COSTUMES.

DEACON.—Old fashioned make up, red whiskers, red wig, boots, etc.

DICK.—Rather shabby, but should not disguise the fact that he has money, some jewelry.

TOM.—Very shabby, boots, black wig, etc.

JUBA.—Servant's dress, swallow tail coat, white vest, black pants, very long shoes, showy watch chain, etc.

—X—

STAGE DIRECTIONS.

R., means Right; L., Left; R. H., Right Hand; L. H., Left Hand; C., Centre; S. E., (2d E.) Second Entrance; U. E., Upper Entrance; M. D., Middle Door; F., the Flat; D. F., Door in Flat; R. C., Right of Centre; L. C., Left of Centre.

R. R. C. C. L. C. L.

* * Reader is supposed to be upon the stage facing audience.

Deacon Jones' Wife's Ghost.

SCENE.—A kitchen—table C., barrel R., rocking chair L., door in flat, fire-place R., shelf over fire-place, candle and candlestick on shelf—DEACON discovered smoking.

Deacon. Well, my mind is kinder unsettled. Now there's Tom, he's a good sensible lad, and I ain't got a thing against him. And there's Dick Davis, he's a little loud, but by gosh, he's got lot's of money. Yes, I guess he'll make the best man for Sally.

Enter, JUBA, D. F., with wood.

I say Juba—

Juba. (*drops wood*) Yes, I'se heah.

Dea. What did you drop that wood there for? Pick it up. (*yells*) Do you hear me!

Juba. (*picking up wood*) Spect I do.

Comic business picking up wood, puts wood by fire-place.

Dea. Now, if you've got that done, bring me the candle.

Juba. (*gets candle*) Dar it am.

Dea. You blasted fool, that's just the candle.

Juba. I know it. Ain't dat wha' you sed you wanted?

Dea. Go and get the candlestick off the shelf, you stupid fool.

Juba. (*goes to shelf—aside*) I'll be gol darned if I see any stick here. Well, I spect's I'll have to go and fine one. (*starts for door*

Dea. (*looks around*) Where you going, you black

4 DEACON JONES' WIFE'S GHOST.

rascal?

Juba. Goin' out to git a stick off de woodpile.

Dea. Get a stick off the woodpile?

Juba. Yah! You said you wanted a stick for dat candle, and I be blasted if I can find any on dis shelf.

Dea. (*aside*) The confounded idiot. (*aloud*) That's it upon the shelf there. (*points to candlestick*)

Juba. Is dat what you call a candlestick? I thought a stick was wood.

Dea. Now get a match and light it.

Juba. (*gets match*) Say, Massa, which end do you light dis on? (*holds up candle stick*)

Dea. Bring that here. There ain't no use tryin' to learn a nigger anything. (*DEACON lights candle*)

Juba. Dar, by golly, I'se learned somethin'.

Dea. Now get to your work. (*leans back in chair and smokes and reads*) Now I'll enjoy myself.

Juba. (*sneeze*) By golly! Whew! If anybody should come in heah, dey would call it a smoke house. (*sweeps*)

Enter, TOM, D. F.

Tom. How are you this evening, Deacon?

Dea. Tolerable well, sir! (*smokes*)

Tom. I suppose Sally's well?

Dea. About as well as usual. (*smokes*)

Tom. (*moving near DEACON*) Deacon, I've come over this evening, to speak to you on a very solemn—

Juba. (*aside*) I'll bet he'll make a preacher some day.

Dea. Anything concernin' the church, Tom?

Tom. No, not exactly.

Dea. (*smokes*) Let'er go.

(*takes up paper and reads*)

Tom. Deacon, I've come down this evening to talk to you on the subject of marriage.

Dea. You ain't goin' to get married, are ye, Tom?

Tom. Well, I'm talking some of it.

Dea. I think I'm a pretty good adviser. Tom, who have you settled your affections onto?

Tom. Well, Deacon, the truth of it is, I love your daughter, and I know she loves me.

Juba. (*aside*) Yah, dat's so, case I seed um huggin' each odder, de odder day. (*sweeps*)

Dea. T'wont do you any good to talk in that direction, because I've got another feller picked out for Sally.

Tom. Does she agree to it?

Dea. (*hitting table with fist*) By gum, she's got too! I'm boss of this house. (*JUBA drops broom and runs toward door*) Here you black rascal, where are you goin'?

Juba. (*stops*) Jes' goin' to shut de door.

Tom. I suppose it's that Dick Davis you've got picked out, ain't it?

Dea. (*reading paper*) You've guessed it the first time. 'Tain't because I've got anything against you, Tom, but Dick's got lot's of money, an' that's the main thing in this life, and he'll make Sally a good husband. (*looks at paper*) Well, by gum! if here ain't the most foolish thing I ever read. Why the idea! They say this house is haunted. That spirits roam around here.

Juba. Dat's a fac', dere's two barrels of 'em down cellar.

Tom. (*aside*) Good! I have it. I will yet have the old man's consent. (*to DEACON*) Well, I suppose there's no use arguing with you any longer?

Dea. No, I've made up my mind, that Dick will make the best husband for Sally.

Tom. (*rises and goes*) Good night, Deacon.

(*exit, C. D.*)

Dea. Good night. Well, Tom's a good hearted boy, but Dick, he's got the money. Yes, Dick shall have her.

Enter, DICK, C. D.

Dick. (*to JUBA*) Hello! you black heathen. (*to DEACON*) Good evening, Deacon!

Juba. (*aside*) You miserable white niggah, I'll get even wid you.

Dick. Deacon, what's that Tom Judkins prowlin' around here for? I met him out in the woods.

Dea. Oh! he just came over to ask me if he couldn't have Sally.

Dick. And you told him—

Dea. (*hits table with fist*) No! (*JUBA jumps*

Juba. (*aside*) By golly! I like to lost my equillibrum, dat time.

Dick. You'r a sensible man, Deacon. How is it,

6 *DEACON JONES' WIFE'S GHOST.*

Deacon, I saw in this morning's paper, that this house was haunted.

Dea. Well, that's what the paper says. They say that my first wife haunts this place, but it's darn queer how she can. She was buried in a cashmere robe, in a black walnut coffin, with silver handles and a fifty dollar tombstone over her head.

Dick. It's mighty queer, Deacon, but who's afraid?

Dea. I ain't. If a ghost should come in that door this minute, I'd—

Juba. Say, boss, I wish you would'nt talk on such solemn subjects.

Dea. Here take this pipe and put it on the shelf.
(yells) Do you hear!

Juba. (takes pipe) I 'spect I do, I ain't de'f.
(puts pipe on shelf)

Dea. Dick, how about a little cider?

Dick. Well, Deacon, a little cider wouldn't go very bad.

Dea. Juba, get a pitcher and go down cellar and draw some cider.

Juba. (scared) Lawd bress you Massa, de cider's nice as ebber was, an' Juba wouldn't hab no disjectives against a drink ob it, but dis chile wouldn't go down into dat cellar at dis time of night, for all de cider in de world.

Dea. (laughs) Well, Dick, you're younger'n I am, you take the candle and go down and draw the cider.

Dick. (getting nervous) Oh! Deacon, I couldn't think of taking such liberty. You go down and I'll keep watch.

Juba. (comic business) By golly! dis is gettin' putty omniferous.

Dea. Fiddlesticks, Dick, we'll both go down. It needs two, one to hold the mug and the other to draw the cider.

Juba. An' annoder to hold de candle.

Dea. Juba, get the pitcher. (JUBA gets pitcher)
Here we go. You go ahead, Dick

Dick. No, I'd rather not. I do not know the way.

Dea. O pshaw! What's the use bein' afraid. Al aboard. Juba, you bring the candle.

Juba. (gets candle) I'se got it. (get to door, R.)

DEACON JONES' WIFE'S GHOST. 7

Enter, TOM, R. E., disguised as ghost.

Tom. (*woman's voice*) Back, every one of you!

JUBA drops candle, gets into barrel out of sight—DEACON gets under table—DICK behind chair.

Juba. (*in barrel*) Oh! de good Lawd come right down fro dis roof, and presarb dis niggah, 'cause he's chased by a ghost. (*peeps out*) Oh!

(*drops out of sight*)

Dick. Don't take me! It's the Deacon you want. He's been a dreadful old reprobate.

Juba. (*looks out*) Dat's de trufe! (*drops down*)

Dick. I'm honest! I belong to the church.

Juba. (*looks out*) So do I! (*drops back*)

Dick. And give five dollars to the minister, besides a couple of pounds of butter Thanksgiving. (*ghost groans*)

Juba. (*looks out*) Oh! what a lookin' animal he is. Oh! (*drops back*)

Dea. Dick Davis is the very one you want! Take him, dear good ghost. He cheated the widder Sprigins in work. (*groans*)

Juba. Dat's de trufe and I'll swear to it.

Dea. An' he sold sassingers made out of liver! Spare me! I am an old gray headed man and can't last long.

Tom. (*deep voice*) Deacon Jones—

Juba. (*looks out*) Oh! ain't dat solemn?

(*drops down*)

Tom. On one condition, you shall both go free.

Juba. (*looking out*) Me to? (*drops back*)

Tom. None other! Promise both of you, what I require, or I'll drag you down to everlasting torment.

Dea. Anything! anything!

Dick. I promise!

Juba. (*looks out*) I'll promise right on top of de good book! (*drops down*)

Tom. Deacon Jones, Thomas Judkins loves our daughter.

Juba. (*looking out*) Don't you 'spose we knowed dat. (TOM moves, JUBA drops into barrel—looks out) By golly, dat was a close call. (*drops back*)

Tom. In separating them you sold your soul to the

devil; consent to their marriage and I leave you forever.

Juba. By golly, I wish you'd hurry up, dis barrel's gettin' mighty tired.

Tom. Refuse, and I give you over to satan.

Dea. I consent! I do! She shall marry him whenever she likes.

Juba. You hab my consent.

Dick. I give her up! The widder Springins will make the best house-keeper after all!

Juba. (*looks out*) Dat's what I allus sed.

Tom. (*throws off disguise*) Thank you, gentlemen.

Juba. }

Dick. } Good Lord!

Dea. }

Dick. (*rushes out*) Tom Judkins, I've a good mind to thrash you for this.

Tom. You have the privilege, sir!

Dick. (*throws off coat*) Well, here goes—

Dea. (*rushes out*) Dick Davis, you jes' put on your coat, an' don't you dare touch Tom Judkins.

Juba. (*comes from barrel*) Don't you git scared, Tom, kase, if dere's goin' to be any fightin', I want to hab a han—or radder a head in it. Dis ole skull has stood lots of hard cracks, and I reckon it's good fo' some more. I allus sed dat you ought to hab Sally, an' I say it yet.

Dea. Tom, I've changed my mind about that marrying business. I had thought that I would have Sally marry a man with lot's of money, but I've changed my mind, so I guess I'll have her marry a man with lots of brains, an' that man is you, Tom.

Tom. I am very much obliged to you, Deacon.

Dick. Well, as I sed afore, I think the widder Sprinkins will make the best wife for me after all.

Tom. Well, let's all shake on it.

Dick. }

Dea. } All right.

Tom. }

(*TOM and DICK take DEACON'S hands*)

Juba. (*raises hands over them*) May de Lawd bress you my children.

CURTAIN.

THE END.

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178	Comedy-Shorts	5 1	109	Santa Claus' Daughter	5 4
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55	3	2	190		
327	2	2	27		
232	4	2	153		
241	2	2	230		
270	5	0	103		
1	5	2			
326	3	3	24		
339	2		236		
137	1	1	319		
328	3		47		
232	3	3	77		
215	2	2	88		
40	2	2	256		
38	5	2	128		
101	3	1	90		
167	3	2	61		
291	4	4	214		
308	4	2	231		
285	5	2	150		
68	4	0	246		
295	7	6	109		
54	4	2	297		
24	4	2	134		
292	5	0	258		
142	2	1	177		
276	3	1	96		
263	6	2	107		
7	3	1	133		
281	0	8	179		
312	4	3	34		
299	6	2	243		
170	2	2	25		
213	5	3	92		
32	3	3	238		
151	2	1	1		
56	5	3	64		
70	2	8	253		
135	4	5	282		
147	1	2	122		
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204	6	0
325	8	0
65	3	1
15	1	1
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