

HOW THA BULL CURED THA CRIPPLE

As Zam Sparstraa wur thatchen a wate rick jist atter last harvest, tha ladder slipped, an down Zam'l com ael of a vlop. Young Bob Bunkum happened ta twig un, an rin off ta varm var help; tha bailee an anodder man com up, pulls zam's laigs out straight, an we a bore shore an zim tar twine, boun up tha one a sweared wur broke in two. Thay zent un off ta Zalsbury Infirmary, wur tha Doctors stript un, an put his gammy laig inta splinters, an ther he had ta lay on his back var zix weeks, wie nuthen to amuse un bit lookin up at tha zalin, zoo's tha laig bwone shid get properly zet. Twur a terryable tryen time var un, as thay hooden let un av nar a drop a beer, neet, nar bit a baccy. At tha end a tha zix weeks thay put a pair a crutches under his yarms, an a wur zoon yeable ta hobble up an down tha ward a bit. At tha end of another month tha doctors discharged un, zayin as how aels he wanted now ta zet un right wur his own neative hayer. Zoo thay pop'd un up inta tha Carrier's van, an purty zoon Zam'l vound hiszelf at his cottage dooer agean; bit twur truly wonnervul how he zeem ta teak ta thay ther crutches. Zam wur a member o' tha village Club, an a coose, wurden in nar bit of a hurry ta begin wirk agean. Atter zix months had passed away, zom a tha club voke thought twur mwoast time a vlung away tha crutches and stearted wirk agean. Zom o'm went as wur as ta zay a wur shammin a bit, var how wur't his gierden groun wur planted an looken za nice, an no biddy ever zeed wirken ther? The vact on't wur, Zam did manidge ta do a leetle to it every day wen no biddy wur looken, an tha crafty baiger vow'd his couzzin did com auver vrim Hodstock, an do it at nights jist ta

blidge un, bit no biddy never zeed un at it. Well, things wur getting ta zich a pass, that two young varmers, members o' tha club, planned ta play a trick on Zam'l jist ta vind out wur a wur shammin ar no. One o'm had jist bought a young frisky bull, wich he'd a put in his straa yard, an wich straa yard led out into a paddick, droo wich wur a path as took ee out on tha commin, wur Zam's woold fiather did live, an who a did visit nearly every marnin. Zoo tha owner a tha bull greed ta let un out, jist as Zam hood be crossin tha paddick. Tha tother young varmer greed ta goo wie his dog tother end o' tha vield an hiddy, zoo that if tha Bull shid happen ta com ta too cloas quarters wie Zam, he'd be ready ta zet tha Dog atter un, an drave un back; as thay diden want ta hurt un ya zee. Zoo nex marnin, a bwoy wur zent ta Zam's cottage ta tell un his fiather wanted ta zee un, an a mist goo at wonce; in a vew minets Zam wur zeed hobblin along on his crutches across tha paddick, when tha Bull purty zoon cotch zite on un; directly Zam zeed tha Bull a hurried on var tha life on un, bit tha Bull wur gainin groun; zoo a mead no mwore to do than up wie one o' his crutches an drow'd un at un, thinkin ta vrighten un an drave un back, bit tha Bull diden teak nar bit a notice a that, bit trotted atter Zam'l vaster an vaster. Zeein that, Zam vlung his tother crutch atter un, then took ta his heels an rached tha style jist as tha tother varmer com up, an zet his dog atter un, an ta drave un back ta tha straa yard. Zeein tha varmer, Zam pertended ta vaint right off, an wen a com roun an vetch'd breath, gun ta cuss tha Bull a good un, declaren as how twur a wonder a adden bin gored ta death. He vowed vengeance if ever a took atter un agean he'd be tha death on un, let tha consequence be what tood. Tha varmer cooden help bustin out laffen a good un, an a zaays, "Well, Zam,

thee's zartinly had a narrer sceap, bit thee bisseen hurted dis know, an I da think thee's raaly ought ta be very much ablided ta tha Bull, var it seams he've a quite cured thic gammy laig a thine, var thee's zeam'd ta av used thee crutches purty well in defenden thee zelf." A coose twurden na use var Zam ta deny this, as bouth o' his crutches wur still layen about in tha paddick, dwoant ee zee. Zam'l zomehow ar anodder, had a notion that twur a put up job, an a wur mwore than ever convinced on't when a voun out as how his fiather hadden a zent var'n thic marnin.