

GRATE TALES

Who is there among us who have not heard of the famous, mythical Paul Bunyan? And yet, who knows the straight of the matter? Lies are lies, but the following is a true account of a few of the most interesting incidents in the life and acts of Paul Bunyan.

Paul was born on an iceberg in the Anartic Ocean. His father was a blond giant, who had picked a fitting mate from the fair damsels of Denmark, and the two were honeymooning among the cool breezes of the bergs, while Paul's male parent furtively searched for the foot of the Southern Cross so that he might become famous.

And so Paul, by reason of his parents, inherited large bones and a tendency to become immense. In fact, the Registry office on the berg where he was born gave him an official weight of 25 pounds, which is quite large for a baby.

When Paul was two days old, he saw a Polar bear and immediately took a great fancy for it, voicing his desires with great force and intensity. Bunyan, Sr., fared forth and captured the playful brute, and the baby and the bear became inseparable companions.

At the end of his first year of earthly existence, we see that Paul has attained the growth of an ordinary man, with more than the corresponding amount of wisdom. Never having been bothered with the silly, conventional clothes that mortals affect, his body has become tough and inured to weather conditions, and at all times he might be seen riding calmly about the giant berg, astraddle his bear, and attired only in a loincloth.

Paul celebrated his first birthday by breaking large chunks off the berg and throwing them in the water, taking a huge delight in the great geysers that they caused when they fell back in the ocean. These geysers created such huge waves that they caused a typhoon on the Indian ocean, which raged with unabated fury for three weeks. And Paul hurled one of the ice chunks so high that it flew out into space, and being ignited by the tremendous friction, became a flaming comet, clearly discernible here on earth. (Editor's Note: In spite of the fact that this quaint folk tale is contributed by Prof. Bunker "B. S.," we may print a second installment in the future.)

One of our Fish is so dumb that he thinks ram slips are a sort of petticoat to put on sheep during cold weather.

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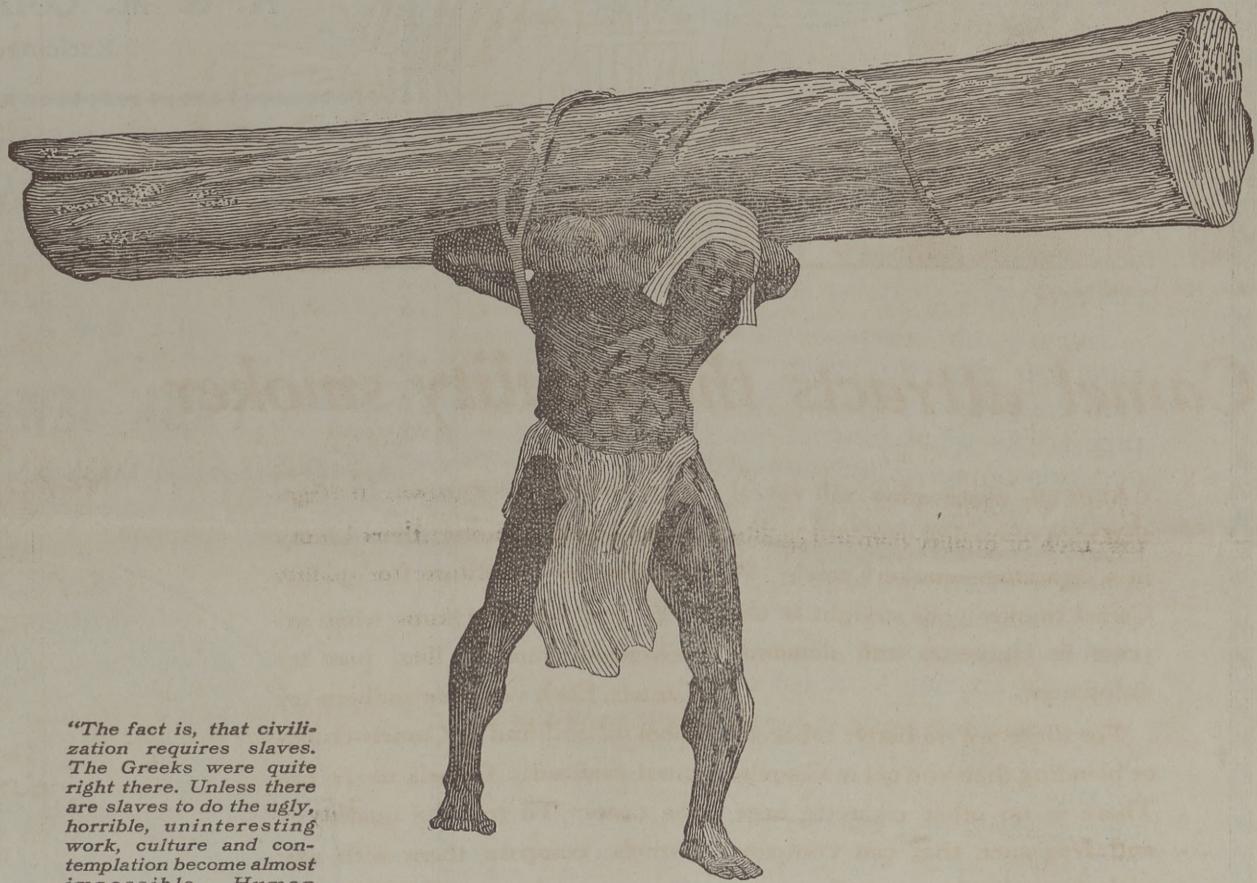
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