HuUcK LEB ERR Y FUN

most touched one of mine. My nose begun to itch. It itched till the

tears come into my eyes. But I dasn't scratch. Then it begun to itch

on the inside. Next I got to itching underneath. I didn't know how I

was going to set still. This miserableness went on as much as six or

seven minutes; but it seemed a sight longer than that. I was itching

in eleven different places now. I reckoned I couldn't stand it more’n a

minute longer, but I set my teeth hard and got ready to try. Just then

Jim begun to breathe heavy; next he begun to snore—and then I was

pretty soon comfortable again.

Tom he made a sign to me—kind of a little noise with his

mouth—and we went creeping away on our hands and knees. When

we was ten foot off Tom whispered to me, and wanted to tie Jim to

the tree for fun. But I said no; he might wake and make a distur-

bance, and then they'd find out I warn't in. Then Tom said he hadn't

got candles enough, and he would slip in the kitchen and get some

more. I didn’t want him to try. I said Jim might wake up and come.

But Tom wanted to resk it; so we slid in there and got three candles,

and Tom laid five cents on the table for pay. Then we got out, and I

was in a sweat to get away; but nothing would do Tom but he must

crawl to where Jim was, on his hands and knees, and play something

on him. I waited, and it seemed a good while, everything was so still

and lonesome.

‘As soon as Tom was back we cut along the path, around the garden

fence, and by and by fetched up on the steep top of the hill the other

side of the house. ‘Tom said he slipped Jim's hat off of his head and

hung it ona limb right over him, and Jim stirred a little, but he did-

nit wake. Afterwards Jim said the witches bewitched him and put him

in a trance, and rode him all over the State, and then set him under

the trees again, and hung his hat on a limb to show who done it. And

next time Jim told it he said they rode him down to New Orleans;

and, after that, every time he told it he spread it more and more, till

by and by he said they rode him all over the world, and tired him

most to death, and his back was all over saddle-boils. Jim was mon-

strous proud about it, and he got so he wouldn't hardly notice the

other niggers. Niggers would come miles to hear Jim tell about it,

and he was more looked up to than any nigger in that country.