

WELL, SIR, HE LIVES IN MY OLD HOME TOWN OUT WEST FOR MANY, YEARS AND IS OFTEN POINTED OUT TO VISITORS TO OUR CITY BY CITIZENS WHO SAY:

"THERE IS A VERY DANGEROUS MAN, INDEED."

BY THE TIME MORGAN JOHNSON IS GETTING ALONG TOWARD FIFTY YEARS OLD, SOME PEOPLE START SHIVERING THE MINUTE HE COMES IN SIGHT AND NEVER STOP SHIVERING UNTIL HE GOES ON PAST.

THEN ONE DAY WHAT HAPPENS BUT MORGAN JOHNSON IS GOING ALONG THE STREET WHEN A LITTLE OLD GUY BY THE NAME OF WHEEZER GAMBLE COMES STAGGERING OUT OF THE GREENLIGHT SALOON, THIS WHEEZER GAMBLE BEING NOTHING BUT A SHEEPMAN FROM DOWN ON THE HUERFANO RIVER.

HE IS CALLED WHEEZER BECAUSE HE WHEEZES MORE THAN SOME WHAT, ON ACCOUNT OF HAVING THE ASTHMA,² AND HE IS SO OLD AND SO LITTLE THAT NOBODY EVER THINKS OF BOTHERING HIM EVEN THOUGH HE IS NOTHING BUT A SHEEP MAN. HE COMES TO TOWN ONCE A MONTH TO GET HIS POTS ON,³ AND THIS DAY HE STAGGERS OUT OF THE GREENLIGHT IS THE FIRST OF THE MONTH.

THE WHISKEY THEY SELL IN THE GREENLIGHT SALOON IS VERY POWERFUL WHISKEY AND OFTEN MAKES PEOPLE WISH TO FIGHT WHO NEVER THINK OF FIGHTING BEFORE IN THEIR LIFE, ALTHOUGH, OF COURSE, NOBODY EVER FIGURES IT IS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO MAKE A SHEEPMAN FIGHT. BUT WHAT DOES WHEEZER GAMBLE DO WHEN HE SEES MORGAN JOHNSON BUT GRAB, MORGAN BY THE COAT, TO HOLD HIMSELF UP, AND SAY TO MORGAN LIKE THIS:

"SO YOU ARE A DANGEROUS. MAN, ARE YOU?"

WELL, EVERYBODY WHO SEES THIS COME OFF FEELS VERY SORRY FOR POOR OLD WHEEZER BECAUSE THEY FIGURE MORGAN JOHNSON WILL CHEW HIM UP AT ONCE AND SPIT HIM OUT, BUT MORGAN ONLY BLINKS HIS EYES AND SAYS:

"WHAT?"

"THEY TELL ME YOU ARE A DANGEROUS MAN," WHEEZER SAYS. "I AM NOW ABOUT TO CUT YOU OPEN WITH MY JACKKNIFE AND SEE WHAT IT IS THAT MAKES YOU DANGEROUS."

AT THIS HE LETS GO MORGAN'S COAT AND OUTS WITH A BIG JACKKNIFE, WHICH IS AN ARTICLE HE USES IN CONNECTION WITH COOKING AND SKINNING DEAD SHEEP AND ONE THING AND ANOTHER, AND OPENS IT UP TO CARVE MORGAN JOHNSON.

BUT MORGAN JOHNSON DOES NOT WAIT TO BE CARVED. THE MINUTE HE SEES THIS KNIFE HE TURNS AROUND AND HAULS IT, WHICH IS A WAY OF SAYING HE LEAVES. FURTHERMORE, HE LEAVES ON A DEAD RUN, AND EVERYBODY SAYS THAT IF HE IS NOT A FAST RUNNER THAT DAY, HE WILL DO UNTIL A FAST ONE COMES ALONG.

2. ASTHMA: SICKNESS CHARACTERIZED BY DIFFICULTY IN BREATHING ACCOMPANIED BY A WHEEZING SOUND.

3. GET HIS POTS ON: GET DRUNK

