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THE TRAMP DOG

2403-2410



Copyright 1906, by The Selig Polyscope Co.

Length 550 ft. Price \$66.00

Code: ADVENTUAL

THE SELIG POLYSCOPE CO.

43-45 Peck Court CHICAGO, U. S. A.

H. H. BUCKWALTER, Gen'l Western Agent
DENVER, COLORADO

FROM THE COLLECTION OF
CHARLES G. CLARKE

"THE TRAMP DOG."

This is not one of the usual every-day pictures that are getting a trifle stereotyped in the everlasting recurrence of impossible situations, but something out of the common run, brimful of real incidents, natural humor, pathetic happenings and a happy ending brought about by the instrumentality of the once despised tramp dog.

A poor dog wandering through the city streets and by-ways in search of a home, a friend, sympathy or kindness from any source, and showing plainly by his drooping tail and general listless demeanor that he is without a friend in fact, a homeless cur of no value to anyone, first takes our attention as he pursues his apparently fruitless quest, receiving here a kick and there a curse, but never even so much as a kind word, until exhausted from lack of food, discouraged and at the end of his resources, he lays down in a corner of a nearby alley to await what fate may send him, and fate appears, as it often does to homeless dogs, in the shape of a gang of boys, the "terrors of the ward," and a convenient tin can, which they proceed to tie to the canine's tail and start him on his way to the dog pound. But at the critical moment his rescuer appears in the form of a sweet little girl, who persuades the boys to abandon their cruel intention. She removes the can and her pats and caresses soon restore the dog's confidence and he gladly follows her home.

The child, accompanied by her new found friend, is seen to arrive at her home and proudly introduces the dog to her father and mother and declares her intention of adopting it for her own pet. To her bitter surprise, however, her father appears unwilling to entertain the stranger and another case of "forcible eviction" seems about to take place—our little friend's powers of persuasion are again brought to bear and papa finally consents to receive the dog as a permanent addition to the family. The dog evidently appreciates the situation and makes himself thoroughly at home.

The little girl is allowed to enjoy herself by playing in front of the home, but receives strict injunctions not to stray away. While she



amuses herself an Italian organ grinder arrives with his "monk" and proceeds to play. The monkey dares and performs many playful antics, much to the delight of the child, who gives it money; and finally when the Italian moves on with his monkey she follows and, unable to resist the temptation, continues to do so until the organ grinder ascends to the elevated train, leaving her alone, when she realizes for the first time that not only is she alone but in a part of the city where she has never been before and which is perfectly unfamiliar to her. What is she to do, where is she to go to, to whom can she apply for help? Alas, poor child, she is lost in a great city; and realizing her forlorn position she wanders about, until thoroughly broken-hearted she sinks to the ground with despairing sobs.

Meantime the distress of her fond parents can be better imagined than described, and although the most thorough search is made in every direction, no trace can be found of the little one who has disappeared so completely.

The dog plainly understands the trouble that his friends are involved in and noticing the absence of his little mistress the first time that the door is opened he rushes out and disappears on his quest for the missing child.

We see the dog leave the house, and a most interesting scene shows him at work with an intelligence almost surpassing that of a human being. Taking up the scent he follows in the footsteps of the missing child with faultless and unswerving sagacity: in and out, now here and now there, rushes the faithful animal, and though oftentimes losing the trail where other footsteps have obliterated it, he carefully works along until his patience is at last rewarded by the discovery of the little girl, far from all aid, as she supposes, and almost abandoned to despair. She starts in glad surprise, and the pleasure which the dog exhibits on finding his former playmate is faithfully brought out, and makes a very delightful and interesting picture.



Now the dog, proud of his well performed duty, proceeds to conduct his little charge back to her home and sorrowing parents and they are soon happily on their way. But yet another adventure awaits our heroine, and the hero of this little drama is given a still further opportunity of showing his bravery.

A repulsive looking tramp is attracted by the sight of the well-dressed child, and succeeds in directing the attention of the dog to something else, having done which he immediately seizes her and makes off as quickly as he can, no doubt intending to hold her until he has succeeded in extorting a large ransom. But fortunately or unfortunately for him, he reckoned without tak-

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ing our canine friend into consideration, and very soon has reason to repent of his error. The dog quickly misses his child friend, and seeing what is amiss makes a rush for Mr. Tramp, causing him to drop the child more quickly than he picked her up and defend himself against the savage onslaught of the thoroughly enraged animal. His struggles are of no avail, however, and the dog soon has him down and gives him a well-earned mauling. The tramp being satisfactorily disposed of the dog conducts his little charge in the homeward way, where she soon arrives weary and footsore, but glad indeed to be back again.

The last scene shows the grief-stricken father and mother sitting together at home and longing for news of their little one; when suddenly the door flies open and the child and dog rush in together. The former is instantly clasped in her father's arms, while the dog, full of joy himself at the family reunion, testifies in every way possible short of speech his pleasure at the happy termination of an apparently serious adventure.

For an appropriate close the film shows the reunited friends—child and dog—the latter no longer a tramp dog.

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