OLD TOM'S SUICIDE.

Sad Ending of a Fish That Became a Drunkard and Couldn't Reform.

Harrisburg correspondence New York Sun.

Some queer happenings have been reported from different parts of this state during the past week, but the queerest of the lot is the death of a fish that had become a confirmed drunkard. The owner of the fish, George Sauers of Leidy, Clinton county, declares that the fish committed suicide. The fish was an unusually large brook sucker. It was caught in a net a year ago this month, and on account of its size it was kept alive and placed in a small fish pound in Leidy's grounds. The pound is shallow, and contained, besides the big sucker, only a few goldfish and other ornamental fish. The sucker soon became used to its new surroundings and grew to be as tame as the gold fish. Its manner of feeding, by extending its queer snout and sucking in anything that came within its reach, was cause for great amusement to all who saw him. The sucker was given the name of Old Tom, and one day Mr. Sauers thought he would try an experiment with the fish. He got a small nursing bottle, filled it with milk, and attacking a long tube to it with the usual mouthpiece at the detatched end, dropped the tube in the water in front of the sucker's nose. The fish gradually sucked the mouthpiece in. He drew a mouthful of the milk down the tube from the bottle, but evidently did not like it, for he spat it out and moved away. Sauers then filled the bottle with beer and tried Old Tom with that. The beer seemed to suit him, for he sucked in more than half of what was in the bottle before he gave up the tube. Sauers says that the sucker cavorted in the water as he had never done before, and had high jinks among the other fish for half an hour or more. After that he moved to the other side of the pond, close to the bank, and remained there all the rest of the day, scarcely moving, even when touched with a stick. Sauers was of the opinion that the beer had put a head on the sucker, and that he was simply paying the penalty of tampering with the flowing bowl, the same as everyone has to. The next day Old Tom seemed to be all right, and he was offered some more beer. He took it like a little man, and this time almost swamped the bottle, which held half a pint. He went off about the pond, as full as a tick, and showed his hilariousness by chasing the other fish in a dizzy sort of way, and by coming to the top and turning regular-made somersaults. This spree of old Tom's did not seem to break him up as the first one had done, although that his coppers were hot was aptly shown next morning by the avidity with which he took in a milk punch that Sauers had thought would set well on his stomach. That punch, though, gave old Tom an early morning jag that made him ugly, and he waltzed around the pond, knocking the unoffending gold fish right and left, and was evidently just crazy for a muss. This disposition on the part of the inebriated sucker led him to grab by the tail one of the big crawfish that were part of the ornamental life of the little pond. Old Tom stuck out his snout and seized the crawfish and tried to suck him in. The crawfish is a creature that resents familiarity of any kind, and this one twisted itself around, shot out its left claw, and caught old Tom by the jowl, and immediately followed him with a hitch on his nose with the other claw. The sucker dropped the crawfish like a hot iron, but the crawfish didn't drop the sucker, and it wasn't until he had made the liveliest kind of a circuit of the pond, carrying consternation to the staid and dignified goldfish that old Tom was able to shake off the foe he had been unwise enough to tackle. That encounter seemed to sober the old fellow up, and he retired to the shelter of a big stone on the bottom of the pond, and remained in evident remorseful contemplation until afternoon. Then he sallied forth once more, and as he sought with considerable eagerness the spot where he had previously encountered the seductive rubber tube, Sauers took it for granted that he was looking for a bait. Sauers treated him to beer, and he laid right to it until he had emptied the bottle. He came around looking rather wistful next morning, and took with unfeigned delight a cocktail that Sauers mixed for him. Ever since then, Sauers says, the big sucker has been on the downward path. He came around every morning for his nip, and if he didn't get it tore around the pond like a wild man. Beer got too mild for him, and for the last three months he has been loaded up on straight whisky. Sauers says he tried several times to break Old Tom of the habit he himself had thoughtlessly led him into by gradually weakening the whisky with water, and finally quit the supply entirely; but one day Sauers went out and saw old Tom wild-eyed and evidently filled with terror, shrinking back as far as he could in a little hollow in the bank, as if trying to escape from something that was menacing him. Suddenly he rushed wildly out of the hollow and tore like mad to a little stump and got behind it. He peeked out around the stump and evidently saw the thing that was troubling him in pursuit, for he drew back and actually crouched against the stump, while his eyes almost hung out on his cheeks with terror.

"He's got the jams!" said Sauers. "I've shut his liquor off too suddenly."

Sauer went and got Old Tom's bottle and gave him a corker. After the old fellow had got three inside of him his nerves quieted down, and he came around all right. Since then Sauers hadn't dared to shut Old Tom's liquor off. He required more and more every day, and he took on a disreputably blear-eyed and bloated condition. He swelled up half as big again as he was in his sober days, and the goldfish and other fish in the pond long ago cut his company. If he happened to get anywhere near them, four or five of them would pounce upon him and give him the bounce without delay. He got to be an out-and-out bum, and began to feel his disgrace about a week ago. One day last week, after he had been drinking heavily, he moved over toward the big stone at the side of which he had made his lounging place since he had been ostracized by society in the pond, and gazed at it in a curious manner for a minute or two. Then he made a sudden and swift rush forward and hurled himself head first against the side of the stone. The force of the collision threw Old Tom back more than two feet from the stone. He gave a convulsive gasp, turned over on his side, and rose to the surface as dead as a pickled mackerel.

"He had committed suicide," Sauers says, "as sure as his name was Tom."

Family Likeness.

From the New York Weekly.

Mrs. De Firm—"I tremble to think of our daughter marrying that young man. Why, he orders his mother and sisters around as if they were slaves."

Mr. De Firm—"Don't worry, my dear. He won't order our daughter around more than once. She takes after you."

Classical Information.

From the New York Sun.

Professor: "Who was Atlas?" Student: "He was a highwayman." Professor (sarcastically): "Indeed!" Student: "Doesn't Shakespeare say 'All the world's a stage?'" Professor: "Yes." Student: "Well, Atlas held it up."

THE LOCAL MARKET.

These Quotations Are Revised and Corrected Every Day.

Sugar—Granulated, per 100, "C" $9.00; light brown, $8.00; pulverized H & A, New York, $13.50; loaf, $13.10; maple per pound, 20c.

Coffee—Market strong; green Rio, 19@24c; Costa Rica, 18@23c; Java Mandahling, 40c; Mocha, 37@40c; roasted Rio and Costa Rica, 20@30c; roasted Carbaio, 32c; roasted Mocha and Java, 38@50c; Arbuckle's, 35c.

Teas—Japan, 35@50c; English Breakfast, 40c@$1.00; Gunpowder, 45c@$1.00; extra Young Hyson, 75c@$1.00.

Pickles—Eastern—3 gal., $2.50; 5 gal., $3.50; 10 gal., $6.00.

Potatoes—$1.75 per cwt.

Cabbage—Per cwt, $3.00.

Eggs—Per case, $8.00.

Butter—Per ℔, 35@40c.

Cheese—Per ℔, 20@25.

Fruits—Dried apples, per 5-℔ packages, 75c@$1.00; ditto sliced, 50-℔ boxes, 14c per ℔; peaches, Salt Lake, 16c; apricots, 29c; evaporated ditto, 25c; blackberries, 15c; raspberries, 35c.

California fruits, $5.00@5.50 per case.

3-℔ Standard tomatoes, $3.25.

2-℔ Standard corn, $3.00.

2-℔ Standard peas, $3.50; seconds, $2.75.

2-℔ String and Lima beans, $2.75.

Dried Beans—Navy, $6.00 per 100 ℔; Lima, $7.00; Bayos, $6.25.

Wheat—No. 1, per 100 ℔, $2.09.

Corn—Cracked, per 100 ℔, $1.75.

Bran—Per 100 ℔, $1.50; bran and shorts per 100 ℔, $1.50.

Flour—Per 100 ℔, Pillsbury's best, $4.50; Ogden, $3.50; Stragne, "Daisy," $3.50.

Corn meal—Per 100 ℔, $2.50.

Oat meal—Per 100 ℔, $4.50.

Lard—10@12c.

Fresh Meats—Pork, 15c; beef, 8@20c; lamb, quarters, 75c@$1.00; mutton, 7@15c.

Salt Meats—Ham, 10@20c; bacon, 15c; corned beef, 10c; pork, 15c; sausage, 12½@15c.

Coal—Per ton, hard, $19.00; soft, $9.50.

Wood—Per cord, $4.50.

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Advertisements under this head one cent per word each insertion; special rates on contracts for definite periods. No advertisement accepted for less than 25 cents.

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Advertisements will be inserted under this head three times free of charge. Copy for the advertisements may be left at either the Butte or Anaconda offices of the "Standard."

WANTED—Situation as brick moulder. Address H. Y., Standard office, Butte. 8

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Notice of Sale of School Bonds.

IN ACCORDANCE with the provisions of sections 1950, 1951 and 1952 of the Montana school law and acts amendatory thereof, and as authorized by an election held at the district school house of School District No. 10 in the city of Anaconda, Deer Lodge county, Montana, on the 17th day of May, 1890, the school trustees of said district No. 10, Deer Lodge county, Montana, will on Saturday, the 21st day of June, 1890, at 2 o'clock p. m. of said day in front of the office of THE ANACONDA STANDARD in the said city of Anaconda, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash, the coupon bonds of said district to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000), said bonds to be of the denomination of two thousand dollars ($2,000) each, dated June 21st, 1890, to run twenty years, and redeemable at the option of said trustees on and after June 21st, 1900, bearing interest at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, interest payable semi-annually at the office of the County Treasurer of Deer Lodge county, Montana.

Said bonds cannot be sold for less than their par value.

By order of the Board of Trustees.
Dated May 20, 1890. L. A. KING, Clerk.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

LAND OFFICE,
HELENA, Mont., June 4, 1890.

Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Judge or in his absence, the clerk of Deer Lodge county, at Deer Lodge, Montana, on July 26th, 1890, viz: Daniel Murphy on homestead application No. 4544 for the e. ½, n. w. ¼, n. ½ s. w. ¼, sec. 8, tp. 4, n. r. 10 w.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Frank Birmingham, William Prindeville, John Forrest and Thomas Ford, jr., all of Stuart, Mont.

S. W. LANGHORNE, Register.

WM. L. HOGE, President.
MARCUS DALY, Vice Pres't.
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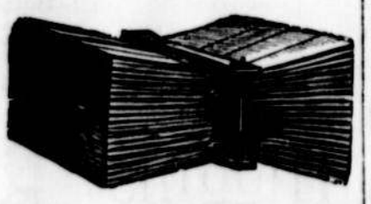

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JAMES B. LEAHY,
Secretary.