

THE OLD CANOE.

[Published by request.]

Where the rocks are gray and the shore is steep,
And the waters below look dark and deep;
Where the rugged pine, in its lonely pride,
Leans gloomily o'er the murky tide;
Where the reeds and rushes are tall and rank
And the weeds grow thick on the winding bank;
Where the shadow is heavy the whole day through,
Lies at its moorings the old canoe.

The useless paddles are idly dropped,
Like a sea-bird's wings that the storm hath lopped,
And crossed on the railing, one o'er one,
Like folded hands when the work is done;
While busily back and forth between,
The spider stretches his silvery screen,
And the solemn owl with dull "too hoo,"
Nestles down upon the old canoe.

The stem half sunk in the slimy wave,
Rots slowly away in its living grave;
And the green moss creeps o'er its dull decay,
Hiding the moldering dust away;
Like the hand that plants o'er the tomb a flower,
Or the ivy that mantles a fallen tower,
While many a blossom of liveliest-hue,
Springs o'er the stern of the old canoe.

The currentless waters are dead and still,
But the light-winds play with the boat-at-will,
And lazily in and out again
It floats the length of its rusty chain;
Like the weary march of the hands of time,
That meet and part at the moonlike chime;
And the shore is kissed at each turn anew,
By the dripping bow of the old canoe.

Oh! many a time, with a careless hand,
I have pushed it away from the pebbly strand
And paddled it down where the stream ran quick,
Where the whirls were wild and the storm was thick,
And laughed as I leaned o'er the reeking side,
And looked below in the broken tide,
To see the faces and the boats were two
That were mirrored back from the old canoe.

But now as I lean over the crumbling side
And look below in the sluggish tide,
The face that I see is graver grown,
And the laugh that I hear has a sober tone,
And the hands that lent to the light skiff wings
Have grown familiar with sterner things;
But I love to think of the hours that flew
As I rocked where the whirls their wild spray threw.

Ere the blossom turned, or the green grass grew
O'er the moldering stern of the old canoe.

A CONSTANT READER.

BY PARMENAS MIX.

The overworked scribe of the "Mudville Gazette"
Sat wondering,—moneyless wight—
If his office would ever be cleared of its debt,
With the times so deplorably tight,—
When the tread of old leather was heard on the stair,
And a stranger stepped into the room,
Who asked with the "don't let me bother you" air,
Which the bore is so apt to assume—

"How are ye?" The editor rose with a smile
And pleasantly yielded his chair—
And the visitor's sadly unbecoming tile
(Which exhibited symptoms of wear)
On the top of the desk, alongside of his own
(A shocking old plug, by the way),
And then asked in a rather obsequious tone,
"Can we do anything for you to-day?"

"No—I jest called to see ye"—the visitor said,
"I'm a friend to the newspaper man"
Here he ran a red handkerchief over his head,
And accepted the editor's fan—
"I hev read all the pieces you've writ for your sheet,
And they're straight to the p'int, I confess—
That 'ar slap you gin Keyser was sartially neat,
You're an ornament, sir, to the press!"

"I am glad you are pleased" said the writer,
"Indeed;
But you praise me too highly, by far—
Just select an exchange that you're anxious to read,
And while reading it, try this cigar.
By the way, I've a melon laid up for a treat—
I've been keeping it nestled in ice,
It's a beauty, sir, fit for an angel to eat—
Now, perhaps, you will relish a slice?"

Then the stranger rolled up half a dozen or more
Of the choicest exchanges of all—
Helped himself to the fruit, threw the rinds on the floor,
Or flung them at flies on the wall.
He assured his new friend that his "pieces were wrote
In a manner uncommonly able"—
As he wiped his red hands on the editor's coat
That hung at the side of the table.

"By the way, I've neglected to ask you your name,
Said the scribe as the stranger arose;
"That's a fact," he replied, "I'm Abimalech Bame,
You have heard o' that name, I suppose?
I'm a-lyin' out here on the Fiddletown Creek
Where I own a good house and a lot;
The "Gazette" gets around to me wunst every week—
I'm the constantest reader you've got!"

"Abimalech Bame," mused the editor, "B-a-m-e
(Here his guest begged a chew of his 'twist!)"
"I am sorry to say your mellifluous name
Doesn't happen to honor my list!"
"Spoke not," was the answer—"no reason it should,
For ye see I fine lots with Bill Prim—
He's a reg'lar subscriber and pays ye in wood,
And I borrow your paper o' him."
—"Brio-a-Brio," Scribner for December.

Election returns received at the Secretary of State's office show the vote on the Constitution as follows:

	For.	Against.
Andrew	654.	466.
Monroe	1,607.	43.
St. Francois	507.	105.
Worth	240.	224.
Dallas	443.	104.
Scotland	779.	36.
Gentry	669.	118.
Jackson	2,687.	254.
Jefferson	836.	123.
Lincoln	1,209.	30.
Livingston	788.	113.
Benton	503.	118.
Callaway	1,801.	29.
Cooper	1,401.	91.
Shelby	761.	25.
Iron	384.	66.
Laclede	589.	28.
Franklin	696.	181.
Cass	1,127.	431.
Clinton	735.	50.
DeKalb	438.	85.
Lafayette	1,778.	287.
Macon	1,163.	184.
Polk	583.	274.
Sullivan	740.	317.
Barry	495.	59.
Cape Girardeau	925.	97.
Chariton	1,361.	44.
Christian	111.	93.
Green	1,015.	331.
Nodaway	865.	540.
Pettis	1,091.	362.
Phelps	824.	23.
Ralls	732.	9.
Warren	572.	44.
Hickory	192.	115.
Howard	1,450.	31.
Jasper	629.	525.
Johnson	1,539.	128.
Lawrence	519.	201.
Marion	1,393.	32.
Miller	398.	146.
New Madrid	298.	2.
Putnam	348.	171.
Ray	1,534.	61.
Shannon	231.	11.
Stone	42.	25.
Webster	675.	40.
Wright	270.	22.
Camden	229.	35.
Carroll	1190.	173.
Cedar	401.	178.
Crawford	519.	50.
Davless	852.	65.
Harrison	607.	38.
Knox	614.	127.
Lewis	1013.	237.
Monteau	887.	85.
Montgomery	960.	120.
St. Louis	9685.	1930.
Saline	2259.	149.
Schuyler	489.	74.
Adair	476.	439.
Barton	226.	96.
Bollinger	397.	23.
Buchanan	1,500.	369.
Butler	111.	2.
Linn	1,107.	142.
McDonald	366.	22.
Madison	374.	9.
Newton	816.	251.
Pike	1,282.	91.
Pulaski	442.	21.
Reynolds	261.	5.
St. Clair	551.	47.
Scott	439.	21.
Wyne	439.	21.
Caldwell	547.	329.
Carter	29.	600.
Clark	713.	86.
Clay	1,774.	12.
Grundy	373.	124.
Henry	1,070.	137.
Holt	683.	139.
Marion	277.	4.
Morgan	695.	63.
Osage	741.	47.
Platte	1,203.	87.
St. Charles	1,529.	232.
Washington	749.	31.
Boone	1,843.	110.
Dent	356.	13.
Ripley	195.	1.
St. Genevieve	322.	64.
Stoddard	430.	58.
Audrain	827.	43.
Dade	387.	171.
Dunklin	315.	18.
Mercer	333.	127.
Texas	489.	49.
Mississippi	438.	17.
Taney	100.	38.
Pemiscot	233.	2.
Vernon	771.	24.
Bates	635.	163.
Howell	232.	69.
Ozark	104.	15.
Perry	487.	39.
Oregon	49.	

One hundred and twelve counties give a majority of 76,243 for the new constitution. Atchison and Douglas counties have failed to report. The constitution requires the returns to be made to the Secretary of State within twenty days after the election. The election being held on the 30th of October the time expired yesterday, the 19th inst.

Certificates of corporate existence have been issued to the following business companies: St. Louis Building Supply Company, capital, \$50,000. Mound City Railway Company, St. Louis, Capital, \$70,500. Grundy County Coal Company, Capital, \$100,000. Valley Monthly Publishing Company, St. Louis, Capital, \$50,000. Chas. E. Ware, W. M. Leftwich, Edward A. Lewis, S. T. Glover, Thos. P. Akers, Joseph A. Dacus, Silas Bent and Britton A. Hill, incorporators. Monroe City Bank, Capital, \$50,000.

A colored person in Ottumwa, Ia. agreed to pay \$3.50 for the repairing of his crutch and when the work was done he would disburse but \$2.50. A policeman was called in, and the reverend gentleman yielded up the additional dollar, at the same time saying, "Here it is, it you mus' rob de treasury ob de Lord, in de name of Jesus Christ an' de Holy Ghost, amon."

Report of the Educational Bureau.

John Eaton, Commissioner of Education, has completed his annual report for the year 1875. It contains the usual abstracts of the reports of several State and City superintendents and other educational publications, together with increased tables of statistics, coming as replies to inquiries addressed to various State and city educational officers and institutions throughout the country. The Commissioner says the benefits of a common nomenclature, adopted as a result of its work in reporting educational statistics, are becoming apparent. The subdivision in charge of official educational reports and publications reports a marked tendency to abandon faulty and obsolete methods of instruction and to adopt those more in harmony with natural development. During the year there has been a marked increase in the attention given to the introduction of drawing in the public schools. The statistical work of the office has greatly improved and been largely increased during the past year. Of the particular inquiries sent to schools of learning, asylums, reformatories, &c., in addition to the regular inquiries in regard to public school systems, there were nearly six thousand. In addition to the regular work of the office, one of its subdivisions had been engaged in preparing a special report on public libraries in the United States, including those of schools, colleges &c., and has received the cordial co-operation of all who are interested in these important means of education. The Commissioner says he feels the liveliest sympathy with the embarrassments which are encountered in the States in which slavery has been more recently abolished, and urgently recommends that the general Government devise some measures of aid which shall be generally satisfactory.

The relation of the Bureau of Education to the International Exhibition has been two-fold. First, the educators of the country have naturally made it a medium for harmonizing all the diverse projects and plans for the showing of educational methods, appliances and results; and second, the preparation of such limited but correct reports on the various systems, classes of institutions and phases of education as would be of permanent value.

Fashionable Churches.

A correspondent of the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser writes from New York: A very distinguished European at present visiting this city was asked by a friend at the Traveller's Club on Sunday evening how he had spent the day. He replied that in the morning he had attended a bazaar for the exhibition of fine clothing, and the afternoon in writing home of what he had seen. Importuned to be more lucid regarding the morning, he named St. Jimcrack's Episcopal Church on Fifth avenue as the bazaar, and said he never before witnessed worldliness and religion so closely associated. This satirical rebuke is by no means undeserved, and should extend to other denominations besides the one designated by the European. Of late years the worldly element has been asserting itself more and more at so-called worship at many of our "fashionable" churches, and not only at divine service, but in the general management of church affairs. This is no rash assertion to say that those who attend fashionable churches—and why, in the name of all that is good and holy, should they be called "fashionable?"—do so for the purpose of exhibiting their finery, seeing and being seen. I doubt not—and this is not an individual opinion—that if it was put to vote upon conscience and under penalty of instant death this confession would be drawn from half the congregations assembled on the Lord's day. Magnificent and brilliant chancel appointments and fixtures, sadly inappropriate secular and operatic music, superfluous processions of choir-boys, sensational sermons, and uncalled for services, may be assigned as the roots of all evil which makes our fashionable churches, bazaars, and places of rendezvous for the giddy, worldly throng. There's too much ritualism to be spiritually healthy, and too many sensational and emotional effects identified with the plan, simple, and solemn services ordered by the prayer-book. High churchmen are responsible for much of this—and, after all, who are high churchmen but mentally deficient servants of God, who, forgetful of heavenly precepts, think to make themselves and their church more prominent by means of artificial religion and highly illuminated solemnity. Music, lights, processions, and other sacrilegious clap-tray will never make converts, for its mere repetitions of what we see at opera or theater, and its only effect in the sanctuary—as introduced at fashionable churches—is to make us forgetful of where we are, and greater sinners than ever. How many of us yearn for a return of the days of primitive service—of real, true, and piteous worship!

One hundred and three tramps died in New York during the last fortnight, but there are a few more left of the same sort.

Montgomery Queen has purchased one hundred African ostriches, and is about colonizing them on his place near Haywoods, a small town fifteen miles from San Francisco. It is Mr. Queen's intention to raise ostriches solely for their plumage, each bird yielding over \$200 worth of feathers yearly. He has invested \$100,000 in the enterprise.

California papers are publishing the docket of a Tuolumne County justice of the peace who held office in 1850. The following is an extract from his minutes of the case: "N. B. Barber the lawyer for George Work insolently told me there were no law for me to root so. I told him I didn't care a d—n for his book law, that I was the law myself. He continued to jaw back, I told him to shut up but he wouldn't, I fined him \$50 and committed him to jail for five days for contempt of court, in bringing my rulings and decisions into disreputableness and as a warning to unruly persons not to contradict this court."

THE MURDER OF JAGAU.

The Darkest Spot in the Record of The Whisky Ring.

A Witness of Their Villainy Hired to Run away, and Murdered as he Returned.

We are now enabled to furnish the following additional particulars regarding the case of Chas. Jagau, whose tragic death in this city on the 6th of October awakened considerable interest at the time on account of the strange circumstances connected with the affair, which implicated the whisky ring.

It will be remembered that on Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 5, a German, who had sustained mortal injuries by being thrown from a car window, near Round Grove station, was brought here and taken to the American House, where he died on the next morning. When it was reported that a man had fallen from the smoking car, the train backed up, and he was found almost strangled in a mud-hole, with only one shoulder in sight. After being taken to the hotel, he fully recovered his senses and partook of refreshments, (requesting that his coffee be served without sugar, the way he always prepared it,) after which he was quite cheerful and conversed freely, realizing at the same time that his life was fast ebbing away. He told where his money was sewed in his drawers and described the bills minutely, which proved to be correct. He gave the particulars of the terrible affair to at least a half dozen of our citizens. The statement made to them, as appears from their testimony before the coroner's jury, is that having occasion to visit the closest he was seized by two men, one of whom chloroformed him, while both chuckled him from the car window before he could comprehend the situation. To many the statements seemed almost too terrible to be believed, and yet they could but acknowledge that a dying man would hardly swear to falsehoods. He also gave his name and residence and claimed to have worked over six years for a house at St. Joseph, Mo. He said that several months ago the government discovered frauds and irregularities in the whisky business at St. Joseph, and subpoenaed him as principal witness against Adler & Furst, his employers; he in turn was warned not to expose them. On account certain complications he had gone to Chicago to consult a lawyer, and was on his way back to Jefferson City "to tell the whole truth." He thought two men were following him to kill him, and expressed a fear that they would take further steps to destroy his life. He said his wife lived in St. Joseph, and requested that they should telegraph for her to come to him, but she did not arrive here till Thursday night.

A young man who was a passenger in the same coach, and who says he saw him jump from the window, left the train here. He was a perfect stranger, without any apparent business; he staid about the hotel, and left on the night train. Whether he had any connection with the affair is not known, for he was not detained as a witness.

After the death of Jagau, an inquest was held upon his body, and the jury, regarding his statements as mere hallucinations, returned a verdict of "insane," the justice of which decision is brought in question by subsequent developments, which, as far as it is possible to find out, prove his statements true in every particular.

MRS. JAGAU'S STATEMENT.

which she has furnished us for publication is substantially as follows: Charles Jagau has been in the whisky business, occupying the position of re-distiller and rectifier in St. Joseph, Mo., for six years at the time of his death. The business carried on by his employers was a re-distilling and wholesale liquor and cigar business. Jagau had charge of the re-distilling house, which is separate and several blocks apart from the wholesale house (store). He enjoyed the full confidence of his employers, was liked by every one who knew him, was very kind and liberal, a member of the German Evangelical church, also of the Odd Fellows' lodge. In the late whisky excitement in Missouri there were, among others, indictments found against S. Adler & Co., his employers, charging them in general with a fraud upon the government. At the time this trial came up, in Jefferson City, before the United States District Court (Sept. 22, 1875), it was proved and stated by a fellow-laborer of Jagau's that he (this fellow-laborer of Jagau's) had taken stamps off from barrels containing distilled spirits (highwines) and sold them back to the distillery without the knowledge of his employers, and upon being asked who was present at the time of taking off these stamps, said Charles Jagau was present, and also shared the profits derived from it. In consequence of this statement both were put under bonds of \$2,000 each to appear before the grand jury next March. The bonds were given, and both returned home to St. Joseph. Charles Jagau himself never was brought upon the witness-stand, although implicated by his fellow-laborer as guilty of the same crime as he was. For the 11th of October, 1874, another trial was set, in which Jagau and his fellow-laborer were witnesses on the part of the government. The first night after they had arrived home Charles Jagau's wife was absent from town, and Jagau had a little girl of about 13 years were at home. About 12 o'clock the door was opened from the outside, and a chair, which had been braced under the knob of the door, flew into the middle of the room. The door had been carefully locked. The little girl, who slept in the room, was awakened by the

noise and commenced to scream. Jagau, who slept up stairs, came running down at almost the same moment. They looked around, but could not see any one. The door was locked again and a chair put up against it as before, and the two went up stairs, the little girl being afraid to sleep by herself now. They had been up stairs about half an hour when some one was at the front door trying to open it, but a chair braced up against it rested on the carpet, and therefore did not slip so easy, and it was no success: when James went to the door nobody could be seen. In the next three days Jagau concluded he would go to Chicago and get some legal advice as to what to do and also to find out if possible how the matter would terminate. It was decided that he must leave on the 2:30 morning train on the Kansas City St. Joe and Council Bluffs railroad to Council Bluffs. The Saturday before he came home in the evening and told his wife that somebody had presented to him a very strange letter, written at Jefferson City and signed F. Rindelman, but he said it was not Rindelman's handwriting, as he (Jagau) was familiar with that. This letter stated that Jagau's fellow-laborer, Korf, had done a foolish thing by telling what he had before court and could not be saved, that he better run away at once and hide himself. Jagau (it said) was all right. Supervisor Meyer would be there, in St. Joseph, next Monday, the 4th of October, and would get him as United States witness, and he (Jagau) should bear in mind, that if he betrayed the whisky ring he would be a dead man. At the appointed time as before stated, Jagau left; and, with the intention not to be known on the road by everybody, he therefore cut off his beard before he left, and dressed quite differently from what he used to.

Jagau did not state, nor did his wife think to ask him in the hurry, who it was that presented the letter and was so cautious as to take it back—saying it would be a proof against him if he left the letter with Jagau. On the road, Jagau met his friend Fred Luchow, from Council Bluffs, to whom he told his matters. Jagau noticed a man in the car as he was riding with his friend, who was watching him (Jagau) very close; Jagau told his friend of it. He looked at him spoke to him, and the man said he was on his way to California. Chas. Jagau went on to Chicago, and was on his way home from there when he met with his death. He telegraphed from Chicago to his wife at St. Joseph, Mo.: "Wait for me; will be at home to-morrow." Also to his friend, Fred Luchow, at Council Bluffs: "Wait for me; will arrive there to-night."—Morrison (Ills.) Times of the 19th.

A Memphis Jenkins says: "Her matchless and perfect figure was a model, and never shown to so much advantage as when she knelt for baptism."

The female suffrage question has been to a considerable extent taken out of politics by a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. A suit was brought in the Court urging the claim of females to vote under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. The Court, however, unanimously decided that the Constitution does not confer the right of suffrage on any person, that question being one that exclusively devolves on the various States in the Union. The principle thus affirmed is most important, and settles many questions of constitutional law.

ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA.—On the 23d of November, in the morning will occur a very interesting astronomical phenomenon, no less than the occultation of a brilliant star, Spica Virginis, the leading star in the constellation Virgo, by the moon. That is, the moon will pass between us and the star and hide its light during the passage. This occultation will begin about twenty minutes before two o'clock, or a few minutes after the moon rises, and will continue about an hour and ten minutes, the "lone star," as Spica is often called, being invisible till nearly three o'clock. Those who have not witnessed this singularly beautiful sight of the occultation of a bright star should not fail to behold this celestial wonder, though the drawback of the time of the morning when it occurs, and the position of the moon and star so near the horizon, will require some energy and enthusiasm to overcome. There will be no occultation of any brilliant stars again until the last three months of the year 1876, when the cluster of the Pleiades will be occulted by the moon on the 6th, of October, and the 30th of November, and 28th of December.

A Algerian idea is that the angel of death seizes a dying man by the hair of his head and carries him up to paradise. Baldheaded Algerians, of course go the other place.

TRUSTEE'S SALE.

WHEREAS, Elwood Kirby, and Florence R. Kirby, his wife, by their certain Deed of Trust, dated the 10th day of November, 1874, and recorded in the office of the Circuit Clerk and ex-officio Recorder of Deeds of the County of Cole, and State of Missouri, in book C. at pages 189, 190 and 191, did convey to the undersigned, as trustee, the following described real estate, situate in the County of Cole, aforesaid, to-wit: The south-west quarter of section four (4), Township fort-four (44), Range twelve (12), containing 160 acres, more or less, which said conveyance was made in trust to secure the payment of a certain promissory note therein mentioned and described; and, whereas, said note is now due and remains unpaid, now, therefore, at the request of the legal holder of said note, and under and in pursuance of said Deed of Trust, I, the undersigned trustee, will on

Monday, December 27th, 1875, between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and four o'clock in the afternoon of that day, before the Court House door, in the City of Jefferson, in the County of Cole, and State of Missouri, proceed to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, the above described real estate, to satisfy said note together with the cost and expense of executing this trust.

OSCAR G. BURCH,
Trustee.