

The times demand new measures and new men. The world advances and in the progress of the times that in our fathers' days were but...

THRILLING NARRATIVE. From the Knickerbocker Magazine. ETNA: A THRILLING TALE.

Among the wondrous sights on the earth, the volcano of Etina will hold a just pre-eminence. Renowned by past and present history...

THE AGITATOR.

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And as he spoke, a smile of bewitching beauty crossed his features. "I suppose your tastes are different from those of my people, Signor, I have not such feelings. But may I ask you if you are of...

"Oh! I am king here," he replied, "and my voice grew low and hollow—a terrible fascination!" "I was silent."

"You are to go with me," he cried. "Where?" "There," I have come to carry you to my home. He pointed with a cold, snaky smile down the unfathomable abyss whence ascended the terrible column of inky and sulfurous smoke.

"What! do you not answer?" he cried suddenly, lashed into fury by my silence, and stamping his foot in frenzy upon the rock. "Do you not answer? Then I must carry you with me!"

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NOTES OF TRAVEL. In compliance with an invitation from Capt. Baker and C. A. Ferry, Esq., the enterprising owners of the fine little steamer "Excel," we stepped on board at Parkville on Friday, 18th June, as one of the pleasure party up the Kansas and Smoky Hill Rivers.

Our party was a most agreeable one, consisting of Dr. Hammond, U. S. A., and lady—Miss Nabet of Philadelphia, sister of Mrs. Hammond—Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Baker, their families—Mr. Mills, Paymaster's Clerk, Mr. Castleman of Delaware—Mr. Murdoch of New York—Mr. McCann of Virginia, and our gentlemanly officers, Messrs. Baker, Perry, and Dixon. The excursionists were not numerous; there were, however, enough to constitute an agreeable and pleasant company.

Some of our company joined us at Delaware. Above that place the land is heavily timbered on both sides of the river—with some wide, high bottoms on either bank, consisting of high, dry, rich alluvion. Every five or six miles in this region we passed fine bluffs on the river; and on our right, immediately below the mouth of 'Stranger,' there is a beautiful one, with open woods, and high, rolling prairie in the background.

On the left, a short distance above the Wakarusa flows in a considerable stream, with good timber for some way back. Below the mouth there is a good bluff, and behind are the Wakarusa settlements. Here the Methodist Church (North) have a mission. Coal has also been discovered about the Wakarusa. The Shawnees have sold, without reserve, all their lands in this direction to the whole country on the south side of the Kansas, above the 'wale' (except a strip five miles wide, and thirty miles long, owned...

And from this western line, let it be remarked, all the country westward and northward is open for settlement. From this boundary, to its mouth, the Kansas River presses on the southern bank, touching the uplands every four or five miles; while on the north side, from a point just below the mouth of the Blue, down some fifty miles, there is a continuous bottom, four or five miles wide—larger and more magnificent than the far-famed American Bottoms, below St. Louis. Here excellent corn has been raised by the half, breeds for many years. The soil is a black, sandy loam—kind, warm, and quick; and produces much earlier in the season than farms in the same latitude east. Emigrants to California and Oregon, who are aware of this fact, prefer to cross the Missouri River, at Parkville, and take the great road up the Kansas valley; on the north side, on this account. They find most excellent grazing for their stock by the 1st of April, often earlier. We have not seen a swamp or wet slough, nor any stagnant water, in the valley drained by the Kansas River. The streams, generally speaking, flow over gravelly beds; most of the bottoms are high; the few that are low are of a dry, sandy character; and the prairies are rolling enough to drain off the water freely.

On both sides of the river, above the Wakarusa, there are excellent bottom-lands; and a short way beyond these, another fine site for a town presents itself on the north side—while still further up on the south bank the high prairie comes right down to the water's edge; presenting another appropriate place, where the busy hum of commerce may be-and-by speak the presence of a city. Here we saw numerous cabins of settlers; and away, as far as the eye can reach, in a southwesterly direction, the prairies were high and rolling like the waves of Old Ocean. Southward, beautiful groves dot the prairie, and the dark line of timber that stretches along the Wakarusa valley—with the great Prairie mound, so to speak, fixed there as the landmark of perpetual beauty—the meandering river, with its dark-skirting forests of timber on the north—all are scenes in Nature's magnificent Panoramia, here brought within range of vision. Proceeding north, high rich bottoms extend for many miles, and we saw vast thickets of grape-vines, peaches, raspberries, and papaws. The timber was principally oak, walnut, ash, hickory, mulberry, hackberry, linden, cotton-wood, and coffee-beech.

A few miles below the mouth of the Grasshopper, on the north, the prairie undulates gradually back from the river as far as the eye can reach. At its confluence with the Kansas, there is upon the opposite shore, a beautiful bluff; and between the Grasshopper and Mud Creek, there is a prairie bottom where pioneers were making claims. Capt. Baker thinks that from this point to the mouth of the Kansas is a distance of 80 miles by the river.

For the next twenty miles the country in our course presented the same general features as those just given—on both sides, alternating prairie and timber, all capable of settlement. We passed Mr. Sinson's ferry; his house and farm are very picturesquely situated on an eminence where the upland and prairie come down to the river. About one hundred miles from the mouth of Kansas (by Capt. Baker's estimate) we passed, on the north side, a fine bluff with clumps of trees on the top, rich rolling prairie in the background, and heavy timber above and below. A little further up, on the left bank, a high prairie bottom comes in, which swells gradually away southward, with copious of timber, presenting to the enraptured pioneer eyes for the choicest farms. Settlements are being made there on both sides of the river.

And commerce may yet infuse industrious habits into many of the Indian race. About a mile farther up, and a little back from the river, is the town of Mission. Skimming along for about twenty-five miles farther, we reached the mouth of the Vermilion River, emptying from the north, the timber on both banks forming a dark line through the landscape. In many places along the river, two miles or so above, we passed the western Pottawatomie line, supposed to be about one hundred and seventy miles by water, from the mouth of the river.

The New Secret Organization. We stated several weeks ago that we believed a secret organization had been started up at Washington, by prominent politicians, in opposition to the Know Nothings; and recent movements have confirmed us in the opinion then advanced. Subordinate branches of this organization have been established in various parts of Pennsylvania by men sent out for that purpose—men high in the confidence of the State Administration. This organization, as we before stated, is designed to embrace all classes, parties and creeds of voters—foreign and native, Catholic and Protestant, Whigs and Democrats, Free Soil and Slavery men, Abolitionists and Unionists—and unite them in opposition to the principles avowed by the Know Nothings. The Catholics are going into this movement with a view of controlling it, and making use of the Protestants who will be silly enough to be entrapped into it, to obtain political supremacy in this country. Attempts are now being made by the Catholics and the political demagogues who act with them, to excite the prejudices of the German and Irish Protestants against the Know Nothings, and enlist them in this new movement. Our German and Irish Protestant citizens are not as shrewd as we have always taken them to be, if they permit themselves to be caught in the trap set for them by the Jesuits and their allies. The Catholics having been foiled to a considerable extent in their political aspirations, by the Know Nothing movement, are becoming desperate, and will resort to every scheme which Jesuit cunning can invent, to obtain political power in America. It behoves the people to be wide awake now-a-days and watch the movements of these enemies of Protestantism and Republicanism.—Lancaster Whig.

The Clock at St. Paul's, London. A writer in the Foreign Quarterly, thus describes the machinery of this great London clock: "The pendulum is fourteen feet long, and the weight at the end of it is one hundred weight; the dial on the outside is regulated by a smaller one within; the length of the minute hand on the exterior dial is fifteen feet, and the length of the hour hand is eight feet, and the weight of each is seventy-five pounds; the length of the hour figures two feet two and a half inches. In the face of the dial is an aperture of about a foot square, through which visitors are allowed to protrude their heads to observe the hands in motion, the minute hand making a considerable leap at each swing of the pendulum. A gentleman was at one time indulging his curiosity in this way, the hand being above his head, and afterwards turning to look below, remained in that position, until on attempting to move found the minute hand close upon the back of his neck, and was totally unable to extricate himself.

In a short time he would have inevitably suffocated, even if decapitation had not ensued. Fortunately, a friend was with him, who hastily summoned assistance, and the clock was just stopped in time to save his life. Since that time the guide takes care to caution visitors against prolonging their observations and at a certain period in every hour. The fine toned bell which strikes, is clearly distinguished from every other bell in the metropolis, and has been audible at the distance of 20 miles. It is about ten feet in diameter, and is said to weigh 24 tons. The bell is tolled on the death of any member of the royal family, of the Lord Mayor, Bishop of London, or the Dean of the cathedral. The whole expense for building the cathedral was about a million and a half pounds sterling. How do do, mister printer? I want a Sunday-school banner printed; we are going to have a tarin celebration, and our school wants a banner. 'So they ought, sir; what will you have printed on it?' 'Well I don't know, we ort to have a text on it for a motto.' 'That is a good idea—what shall it be?' 'Why I thought this would be good as any—Be sure you're right, then go ahead.' 'WILLIE, dear, inquired a kind and indulgent mother, of her young hopeful, who had preceded her in rising one morning. 'Willie, dear, what have you done with mamma's stockings?' 'Put 'em in the sweat-meat pot, 'er the dear little creature.' 'Bless his dear little heart! the child is so full of his innocent pranks!'