

Kaffman's Journal.

BY S. B. ROW.

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I WISH SOMEBODY'D COME.

The flowers are blooming on the lawn,
The birds are singing free,
And everything is full of life,
And happiness but me;
The flowers look strangely dull to-day,
They are shadowy as my dreams,
And very lonely seem to me,
The sunlight's golden gleams,
As for the birds, I heed them not,
They had as well be dumb;
They cannot charm my heart to-day—
I wish SOMEBODY'D COME!

I've tried my books—my music, too,
I've tried it o'er and o'er—
But, pshaw! I cannot see my notes,
My eyes keep wandering so,
Unanswered notes before me lie,
I'll count them one, two, three;
And here are letters waiting, too,
And what are they to me?
My books are stale—my music
Discarded as a drum,
My voice is very bad to-day—
I wish SOMEBODY'D COME!

The sun is setting in the west,
And twilight deepens now,
And night comes forth, an ebony queen,
With jewels on her brow;
The cat is sleeping on the hearth,
The bell has rung for tea,
And not one living soul has come—
What can the matter be?
The day is gone, the night comes on,
And I will look no more—
There! Betsey, don't you hear the bell?
SOMEBODY'S at the door!

BLUE BEARD.

This bugbear of every nursery in Christendom was no fabulous monster veiled in human form. He actually lived, moved, and had a being in the fifteenth century; not, however, as a long-robed, turbaned Oriental, as the pictures which used to make our blood curdle would lead us to think.

On an eminence which overlooks the little village of Champtoc, near the Loire, stands the imposing ruin of an old feudal castle. Its grey walls, bare and broken, rear themselves against the glorious sky; and amid the tumbling turrets, the bat and the owl beat their wings and shriek in their midnight revels. The superstitious peasantry avoid the neighborhood from fear, and when the storm whistles and the wind moans, they imagine the sounds to be wails from the injured dead of the old ruin. The dread of the place is not a new feeling, but has existed among succeeding generations of peasantry since the reign of Charles the Seventh. It was at that time the dwelling of Gilles de Retz, a feudal baron, who, as he was then, and still is called the "Barbe Bleue," was, no doubt, the original of our time honored, or rather feared Blue Beard. His deeds of blood, which were but the every day incidents of his life, made him the terror of the surrounding region. The bare mention of his name was enough to subdue the most rebellious urchin into submission; and even the parents believed the winds which reached them by passing over his domain, were sulphur tainted.

Well does the history of this man reveal the dark superstition of the fifteenth century, and also the impunity with which one in high rank might commit the most revolting crimes against humanity. De Retz had once been in possession of immense estates and untold wealth. But by the most debasing excesses he not only squandered his fortune, but also ruined his constitution, so that, while yet a young man, he bore the appearance of decrepitude and old age. He could not, however, consent to pay the penalty of his sin by becoming old before his time. In the blindness of his superstition, he conceived the hope of reclaiming both health and wealth by the power of magic. Having heard of a famous Italian alchemist who had performed some great miracles by this art, he sent for him to the castle.

The cunning magician at once read his man, and encouraged his hopes; he was, therefore, employed at a high price to undertake the work, and invited to make the lofty castle his home. The first act was the winning back of health and vigor, without which all other treasures are of little avail. Numberless were the arts he tried, and mysterious the preparations he made. The dark dungeons and secret subterranean passages beneath the castle were the scene of this work. Here the terrified peasantry imagined that the Italian made a compact with the Prince of Darkness, and sold the duped De Retz to him in compensation for his aid in restoring his health. Among many nonsensical and harmless experiments, were also some of a cruel and abominable character. He induced his infatuated employee to believe there existed in the blood of infants a charm for restoring youth and vigor. He assured him that by bathing daily in the blood of these innocents, the pure young life which had so lately coursed through their tiny veins would be transferred to his own.

The bloody baron did not shrink for one moment from the commission of the horrid crime which this prescription rendered necessary. Tender infants were secretly stolen or forcibly torn from their parents, and kept in the dungeons of the castle till their blood was required. It is believed that not less than one hundred humble mothers were thus deprived of their youngest born. This fiend in human shape hired a magician but not a murderer. That office he reserved for himself, nor did his savage nature shrink from the horrid work it imposed. With his own hand did he pierce the hearts of his affrighted little victims until there was blood sufficient to cover his emaciated body. This is one instance of the cruelty of De Retz. We think very likely his wives

shared the fate of the poor infants, and that the story of Blue Beard in wide trousers, loose robe and turban, was not much exaggerated.

But crime cannot always go unpunished. Even then, when the rich ruled over the poor, justice and mercy triumphed at last. The cries and entreaties of the heart-broken people around his domains reached the ears of his superior, John V. He was arrested and bro't before a tribunal of justice. His palace was thrown open to the public gaze, and its horrid dens and vaults were swift witnesses against him. He was found guilty of murders by scores, and after confessing many crimes, before unknown, he was burnt at the stake in Nantes, 1440. This was the original of "Blue Beard," and there, although more than four hundred years have passed away since he paid the penalty of his crimes, the broken walls and jagged turrets still stand as a memorial that the wicked shall not go unpunished.

ONE OF OUR PECULIARITIES.

A quaint contributor to one of the magazines, says that the "character of a people may be known by the beverages which they use." This theory is not without a certain degree of plausibility, but it would be difficult to apply it to the people of this country. The English may to some extent, derive their somniferous plethora from the beer which they so universally imbibe; and it is even possible that the immaterial character of *vin ordinaire*, or sparkling wine, may impart to the Frenchmen a certain measure of their own volatile nature. The valorous Highlander may perchance derive his indifference to danger and his personal courage, from his potatoes of his favorite usquebaugh; and the Irishman owes his quickness of repartee and natural shrewdness, to the pecten which he surreptitiously distills under the very noses of the excisemen. But when our theorist takes the people of this country into consideration, his idea fails in the application. Unfortunately, we are a nation of bibbers, and our drinks are as multifarious as is possible. Without any positive statistics upon which to base the assertion, it is nevertheless safe to say, that as a people, we are the most inordinate consumers of ardent spirits upon the face of the globe. Go where we may, we find drinking and drinkers, and drinking is the order of the day—drink—drink! If one man is introduced to another, they must drink "to our better acquaintance," and when friends separate for a time, a libation must be poured down, as a liquid bath in which to drown regret. We drink in negotiating transactions; drink to raise the spirits when they are depressed; drink when elated, to prevent the body from taking wing with our happiness and ascending like a balloon. We drink to induce warmth when the air is keen, and to sustain nature when it is sultry. We drink when we are travelling because we are "away from home, and it does us good;" and we drink when at home for all the reasons enumerated above.—*Phil. Ec. Jour.*

THOSE WHO LIVE IN GLASS HOUSES SHOULD NOT THROW STONES.—In the reign of James I. the Scotch adventurers who came over with that monarch were greatly annoyed by persons breaking the windows of their houses; and among the instigators was Buckingham, the Court favorite, who lived in a house in St. Martin's Fields, which, from its great number of windows, was termed the "Glass House." Now the Scotchman, in retaliation, broke the windows of Buckingham's mansion. The courtier complained to the King, to whom the Scotch had previously applied; and the monarch replied to Buckingham, "Those who live in glass houses, Steenie, should be careful how they throw stones;" whence arose the common saying.

A JOKE DISCOVERED.—A joke goes a great way in the country. I have known one to last pretty well for seven years. I remember making a joke after the meeting of the clergy, in Yorkshire, where the Rev. Mr. Buckle was, who never spoke when I gave his health, saying that he was a buckle without a tongue.—Most persons within hearing laughed, but my next neighbor sat unmoved and sunk in thought. At last, a quarter of an hour after we had all done, he suddenly nudged me, exclaiming: "I see now what you meant, Mr. Smith; you meant a joke."

"Yes, sir," I said, "I believe I did."

Upon which he began laughing so heartily that I thought he would choke, and was compelled to pat him on the back.

WE ACCOSTED a little fellow t'other day.—He was about the size and build of a plug of "dog-leg" tobacco, and his face was some sort of a landscape, done up in free-soil and apple-butter. "Who are you?" we asked rather sternly. "Me!" said Young America, trying to look brave: "I'm One of Em—Don't you know me?"

CIGAR ASHES will be found an invaluable remedy for the bite of the mosquito and other insects. Wet the ashes and rub them on the part bitten, and the stinging sensation will be extracted almost instantly. The reason of this is, that ashes contain alkali, which neutralizes the acid of the poison.

THE MEANEST man in the world lives out in West Troy. In helping him out of the river once, a man tore the collar of his coat. The next day he sued him for assault and battery.

THE GAP OUTLAWS.

The Columbia, Pa., *Spy*, of the 21st June, says:—It is well known in this county and throughout the State, that a regularly organized band of villains under the name of the "Gap Outlaws," has long been an institution in the beautiful Pequea Valley. Their celebrity has not, however, been confined to this State or any section—they are known over the whole country, and have their different stations and depots throughout the union. The leader of the gang is an old man about seventy—a smooth, sleek-tongued rascal, who is as slippery as an eel, who has grown old in wickedness and crime, and whose history, could it be written, would present a greater variety and generally successful practice of villainy than the records of the most notorious "lives of criminals" that have ever been published. For over forty years he has had the reputation of being prime mover and instigator in every act of lawlessness and infamy in the county; of being an adept in crime—a perfect "prince of devils"—prime imp of Satan and agent of the powers of darkness. Assisted by aids who do justice to their commander, he has long held the neighborhood of the Gap under subjection. If one attempted to have any of his band answer the powers that be, for some criminal act, anonymous letters threatening the burning of their property and death, were received by the prosecutors almost immediately, and when arson was threatened it was almost invariably followed by the reality.—Their depredations have not been confined to a single crime; they stole everything from the copper on a dead man's eyes to the most valuable silver plate, horses, &c. Counterfeiting they carried on extensively, manufacturing money to meet their demands. Barn-burning, poisoning animals or injuring them so as to render it merciful to kill them, &c., &c., have been the frequent acts of the Gap outlaws. When brought into court, which was very rarely, they could prove *alibi* at sight, and perjury was among their least crimes.

We are happy to believe that a process of extermination has been at last commenced against this infamous band, which is likely to result in its breaking up. Several of the ringleaders, Bill Bear, young Clemson and others are now in the hands of justice, and we trust it will be meted to them in full. The cause of these arrests, was the stealing of two valuable horses from Jacob Sheeler, of Warwick township, Chester county, some two or three weeks ago. The neighborhood was aroused and suspicion was directed towards the Gap. Upon the arrival of the pursuing party in that neighborhood, the citizens of Penningtonville, Christiana and the surrounding country, joined in an endeavor to arrest the thieves, and followed them to Baltimore and Washington. Their efforts were fruitless, but we have heard that the horses have been recovered and are in the hands of the officers of Washington city.

Among the gang arrested is a man named Young, who has peached, and his story has led to the discovery of caves, metal for counterfeiting, goods of all kinds, &c., evidencing the guilt of many usually thought to belong to the "Gap outlaws," as well as several respectable men in the vicinity who have never been suspected of connection with them. We trust the officers will perform their full duty, and not stop until every man, no difference what his station, who has had any lot or part in this matter, is brought to answer at the bar of justice. The Gap gang has long been a reproach to Lancaster county; it has been a terror to many honest people, and it is high time these disgraceful and criminal outlaws should suffer.

A LITTLE bad luck is beneficial now and then. If Patrick Henry had not failed in the grocery business, it is not at all probable that he would ever have been heard of as an orator. He might have become celebrated, but it would not have been from his eloquence, but from the great wealth he acquired by speculation in bar soap and axe handles. Roger Sherman became a signer of the Declaration of Independence for no other reason than that he could not make a living at shoemaking. He cut his bristles and staked his "all" on the "rights of man." The consequence was that the same individual who found it bootless to make shoes, in a few years became a living power in our revolution.

THE FLOOD IN FRANCE.—The inundation in France appears to have exceeded all former floods, back to Noah's; 40,000 habitations have been destroyed or rendered uninhabitable without serious repairs. Immense agricultural districts have been rendered wholly or nearly valueless by deposits of sand, and the crops have been entirely swept away throughout fourteen departments. The human suffering involved in the calamity is quite incalculable. It is well, therefore, that the wealthy and benevolent have taken measures to afford relief.

A FRACTION.—"Humble as I am," said a Buchanan spouter to a mass meeting of the "Unfratified," "I still remember that I'm a fraction of this magnificent Republic."

"You are, indeed," said a bystander, "and a d-d vulgar one at that."

"An' is O'Flaharty yer name?" said Paddy to his new made acquaintance. "Shure, an I knew two old maids in Tipperary of that name; but they weren't yer mother, was they?"

REPORT Of the Kansas Investigating Committee.

On July 1st, Messrs. Sherman and Howard, two of the Kansas Committee, made their report on the affairs of that Territory to Congress. Mr. Oliver, the other member of the Committee, and who is proved to have acted with the Border Ruffians in invading Kansas, has not yet made his report. The Committee set out with the declaration, that all the circumstances connected with the history of the Territory, go to show that if the Compromise had not been repealed, the settlement of it until the people would have made application for admission into the Union. Such application would have been made only on a Free-State basis. When the Missouri restriction was removed, agitation at once began, and the peace begotten by the act of 1820, was gone forever.

The Committee reviewed the first acts of the Missourians in regard to the question of the introduction of slavery into the Territory.—These acts in point of time, were immediately subsequent to the passage of the Douglas Bill, and anterior to the setting-in of the tide of emigration. They exhibit these facts, showing that a deliberate, systematic effort was made to keep emigrants opposed to the introduction of slavery into the Territory from emigrating thither, ere any number of them had resolved to go. They also assert that every officer in the Territory, from Congressman down to constables, had been elected by people who did not live in the Territory. No actual political power has ever yet been exercised by the citizens of Kansas.

The committee declare that, in October, 1854, and before any election was or could be held in the Territory, a secret political society was formed in Missouri (1). It was known by different names, such as "Social Band," "Friend's Society," "Blue Lodge," "The Sons of the South." Its members were bound together by secret oaths; and they had passwords, signs and grips by which they were known to each other. Penalties were imposed for violating the rules and secrets of the Order. Written minutes were kept of the proceedings of the Lodges, and the different Lodges were connected together by an effective organization. It embraced great numbers of the citizens of Missouri, and was extended into other slave States and into the Territory. Its avowed purpose was not only to extend slavery into Kansas, but also into other territory of the United States, and to form a union of all the friends of that institution.—Its plan of operating was to organize and send men to vote at the elections in the Territory, to collect money to pay their expenses, and if necessary to protect them in voting. It also proposed to induce pro-Slavery men to emigrate into the Territory, to aid and sustain them while there, and to elect none to office but those friendly to their views. This secret society was controlled by men who avowed their purpose to extend slavery into the Territory at all hazards, and was altogether the most effective instrument in organizing the subsequent armed invasions and forays. In its Lodges in Missouri the affairs of Kansas were discussed, the force necessary to control the elections was divided into bands, the leaders selected, means were collected, and signs and badges were agreed upon. While the great body of the actual settlers of the Territory were relying upon the rights secured to them by the organic law, and had formed no organization or combination whatever, even of a party character, this conspiracy against their rights was gathering strength in a neighboring State, and would have been sufficient at their first election to have overpowered the settlers if they had been united to a man.

Concerning the election of 1854, when Whitfield was first elected to Congress, they state that there was little or no fraudulent voting was done in the First, Third, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Twelfth, Thirteenth or Seventeenth districts. They say however of the Second District, that out of 261 votes cast, 35 were thrown by citizens of the Territory and 226 by those who were not. In the Fourth, out of 161 cast, only about 30 were deposited by citizens. Out of 82 votes in the Fifth, between 20 and 30 were entitled to vote; the others who voted were Missourians. In the Sixth, 105 votes were given, and 80 of these were cast by the invaders. In the Seventh District, 604 votes were cast, yet "the census shows there were but 53 residents therein, taken three months after." The Committee found but 12 names, who were voters when the census was taken, and they declare that not more than twenty legal votes could have been polled altogether. This was a most glaring and terrible fraud.—There were 584 illegal votes polled. In the Eleventh District, out of 245 votes cast, 238 of these were polled by Missourians. In the Fourteenth, out of 153 cast, 50 were fraudulent. In the Fifteenth, not more than 100 were legal out of 306 thrown. In the Sixteenth, or Leavenworth District, there were 312 votes deposited, and not more than 140 were entitled to be given.

The following is a resume of the election and census of 1854:

Legal votes,	1,114
Illegal votes,	1,720

"Thus your Committee find that in this the first election in the Territory a very large majority of the votes were cast by citizens of the

State of Missouri in violation of the organic law in the Territory. Of the legal votes cast General Whitfield received a plurality.

In January and February, A. D. 1855, the Governor caused an enumeration to be taken of the inhabitants and qualified voters of the Territory, an abstract of which is here given:

ABSTRACT OF THE CENSUS RETURNS.	
Males,	6128
Female,	3373
Voters,	2905
Minors,	3469
Natives of the United States,	7161
Foreign Birth,	409
Negroes,	151
Slaves,	242
Total,	8501

On the same day the census was completed, the Governor issued his Proclamation for an election to be held on the 30th of March, A. D. 1855, for Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory. It prescribed the boundaries of districts; the places for polls; the names of Judges; the appointment of members; and recited the qualifications of voters. If it had been observed, a just and fair election would have reflected the will of the people of the Territory. Before the election, false and inflammatory rumors were busily circulated among the people of Western Missouri. The number and character of the emigration then passing into the Territory were grossly exaggerated and misrepresented.—Through the active exertions of many of the leading citizens aided by the secret societies before referred to, passions and prejudices of the people of the State were generally excited. Several residents there have testified to the character of the reports circulated among and credited by the people. These efforts were successful. By an organized movement which extended from Andrew county in the north to Jasper county in the south, and as far eastward as Boone and Cole counties, companies of men were arranged in regular parties and sent into every Council District in the Territory, and into every Representative District but one. The number were so distributed as to control the election in each district. They went to vote and with the avowed design to make Kansas a slave State. They were generally armed and equipped, and carried with them their own provisions and tents; and so marched into the Territory. The details of this invasion, from the mass of the testimony taken by your Committee, are so voluminous that we can here but state the leading facts elicited.

At the election thus ordered by Governor Reeder, out of 1034 votes polled at Lawrence, the Committee are satisfied that not more than 232 legal ones were polled—leaving 802 fraudulent.

At Bloomington, the Second district, there were 311 votes thrown, of which 30 were given by citizens. At Tecumseh, in the Third, from 200 to 225 citizens voted out of 805. Of the legal votes cast the Free State candidates received 152. In the Sixth district at Fort Scott, of the 350 deposited, 100 were legal. In the Seventh, 252 were given, only 25 of which were from citizens; and 23 of these were cast for McGehee the only Free State candidate running. In the Eleventh, 328 votes were cast, of which only 7 were found in the regular census. In the Thirteenth, 269 were deposited when there were only 96 votes in the District. In the Fourteenth, only 200 out of 727 were legal. There were 417 cast in the Fifteenth, of which 80 were thrown legally. 964 were given in the Sixteenth, and only 150 were legal. In the Eighteenth, 62 votes, and only 17 by residents.

The Committee report the following facts not shown by the tables:

Of the 2905 voters named in the census roll, 831 are found on the poll books. Some of the settlers were prevented from attending the election by the distance of their homes from the polls, but the great majority were deterred by the open avowal that large bodies of armed Missourians would be at the polls to vote, and by the fact that they did so appear and control the election. The same cause deterred the Free-State men from running candidates in several districts, and in others induced the candidates to withdraw.

The poll books of the Second and Eighth districts were lost, the proof is quite clear that in the Second district there were 30, and in the Eighth district 38 legal votes, making a total loss of 898 legal voters of the Territory, whose names are on the census returns, and yet the proof, in the state in which we are obliged to present it, after excluding illegal votes, leaves the total of 1310, showing a discrepancy of 412. The discrepancy is accounted for two ways—first the coming in of settlers before the March election, and after the census was taken, of settlers who were omitted in the census; or secondly, the disturbed state of the Territory while we were investigating the elections in some of the districts, thereby preventing us from getting testimony in relation to the names of legal voters at the time of the election.

If the election had been confined to the actual settlers undeterred by the presence of non-residents, or the knowledge that they would be present in sufficient numbers to outvote them, the testimony indicates that the council would have been composed of seven in favor of making Kansas a Free State, elect-

ed from the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 6th Council districts. The result in the 8th and 10th electing three members would have been doubtful, and the 5th, 8th and 9th would have elected 8 pro-slavery members.

Under the circumstances the House of Representatives would have been composed of 14 members in favor of making Kansas a Free State, elected from the 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th representative districts.

"The result in the 12th and 15th representative districts, electing five members would have been doubtful, and the 1st, 6th 11th and 15th districts would have elected 7 pro-slavery members.

By the election, as conducted, the pro-slavery candidates in every district received a majority of the votes; and several of them in both the Council and the House, did not "reside in" and were not "inhabitants of" the district for which they were elected, as required by the organic law. By that act it was declared to be "the true intent and meaning of this act to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and to regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject to the Constitution of the United States."

A lengthy recital of the history and purpose of the Emigrant Aid Society—a full detail of the people in their election of a constitutional convention—a narrative of the proceedings and deliberations of the Convention—the ratification of their work by the people are given, and the Committee finish their report by avowing that they have reached the following conclusions:

1. That each election in the Territory held under the organic or alleged Territorial law has been carried by organized invasion from the State of Missouri, by which the people of the Territory have been prevented from exercising the rights secured to them by the organic law.

2. That the alleged Territorial Legislature was an illegally constituted body, and had no power to pass valid laws, and their enactments are, therefore, null and void.

3. That these alleged laws have not, as a general thing, been used to protect persons and property and to punish wrong, but for unlawful purposes.

4. That the election under which the sitting delegate, John W. Whitfield, holds his seat, was not held in pursuance of any valid law, and that it should be regarded only as the expression of the choice of those resident citizens who voted for him.

5. That the election under which the contesting Delegate, Andrew H. Reeder, claims his seat, was not held in pursuance of law, and that it should be regarded only as an expression of the choice of the resident citizens who voted for him.

6. That Andrew H. Reeder received a greater number of votes of resident citizens than John W. Whitfield for Delegate.

7. That in the present condition of the Territory a fair election cannot be held without a new census, a stringent and well guarded election law, the selection of impartial Judges, and the presence of United States troops at every place of election.

8. That the various elections held by the people of the Territory preliminary to the formation of the State Government, have been as regular as the disturbed condition of the Territory would allow; and that the Constitution passed by the Convention, held in pursuance of said elections, embodies the will of a majority of the people.

As it is not the province of your Committee to suggest remedies for the existing troubles in the Territory of Kansas, they content themselves with the foregoing statement of facts.

We deem the facts submitted and proven by a cloud of witnesses, as establishing beyond the shadow of a doubt, all the allegations heretofore made by the Free State men. The whole forms a history of a concerted systematic plan of violence, crime and usurpation, never equalled by any set of occurrences in the history of our country. If it does not startle and convince the most unbelieving and captious, we are indeed much mistaken in our judgment of the force and effect truth ought to have.

TRUE YANKEE.—A Yankee out walking in Virginia at Wheeling, while to himself a talking, experienced a feeling—strange—painful and alarming from his caput to his knees, as he was suddenly covered o'er with bees!—They rested on his eye lids, and perched upon his nose; they colonized his peaked face, and swarmed upon his clothes. They explored his swelling nostrils and dove deep into his ears, they crawled up his trousers, and filled his eyes with tears. Did he yell like a hyena?—Did he hollow like a loon? Was he scart and did he "cut and run"? or did the critter swoon? No'er a one. He wasn't scart a mite; he never swoons—or hollers; but he hid 'em in a nail keg-tight and sold 'em for two dollars!

SOME WISE MAN, years ago, said: "If you want to learn human nature, get married to a spunky girl, move in the house with another family, and slap one of the young ones, and then you'll learn it."

Patrick, meeting a jackass braying hideously, remarked, "It's a fine large car that bird has for music, but he's got a wonderful cowld."